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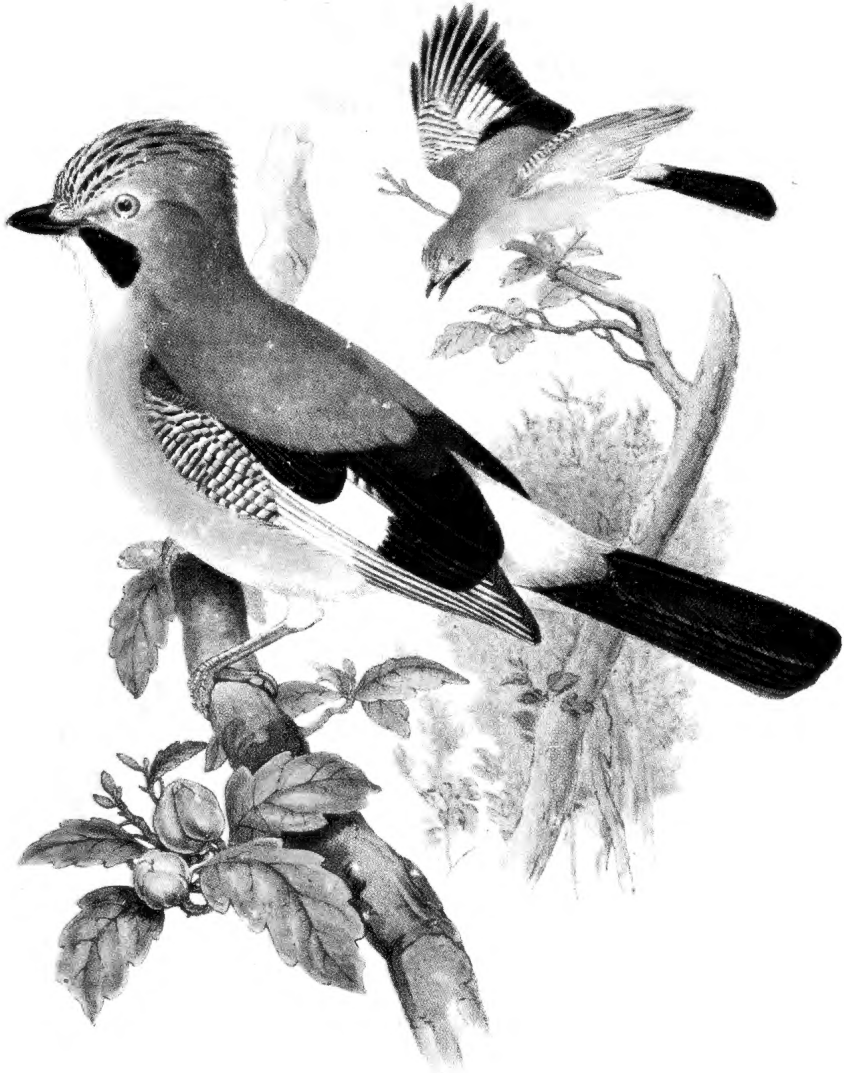


*J. Gould & H. C. Richter, del et lith* *Prints by courtesy of the London Library*

JAY—Garrulus glandarius rufitergum.

A. Graham Brown.

24 Campden Hill Gardens.

London W. 8.

Colac

Victoria

Bird Cage - Book

28.6.47. On the 25th June 1947 the Orion arrived
(4) at Fremantle and we had our first sight of Australia and its birds. SILVER GULLS abounded in the harbour, their silver-grey backs and red bills being well remembered. I was astonished at the number of birds there were in the harbour. They were feeding on the water or flying round the ship with the gulls. Terns were never seen to have the latter. Hermaner (Birds of the Ocean p. 107, 108) gives two species – the Southern Skua and the dark Skua (Catharacta antarctica and C. lonnbergi) both with a distribution including Fremantle. They appear to be inseparable at sea. Cayley (p 242) recognized only C. lonnbergi which he calls the dark Southern Skua.

Though we saw many TURTLE-DOVES on the bus into Perth our first Australian land bird was in the company of Mr. & Mrs. Serventy outside the W.A. Museum – a WILSON'S WAGTAIL. Then came in the afternoon with a visit to Kings Park. – ~~Yellow~~ RED WATTLE-BIRD WESTERN MAGPIE (whose call was delightful to hear again and which with Joan and Macabwala immediately renamed "Cyley-Cyley"). WESTERN SPINEBILL, SWALLOW, FAIRY MARTIN and a very large flock of SILVER-EYES. I had

never seen such a large flock before. With several YELLOW-TAINED THORNBILLS they were feeding in the leafy parts of trees and bushes as well as on the ground. One KOOKABURRA was seen but unfortunately it was silent. Looking across the Swan River there could be seen on each of many posts in the water either a LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT or a LITTLE PIED CORMORANT.

29.6.47 – 3.7.47. On the journey across the Bight (and for several days before reaching Fremantle) many birds on the Australian List were seen but they have been fully entered up in a notebook of birds of the voyage. Port Phillip was only responsible for SILVER GULLS and PACIFIC GULLS in all stages of maturity as we crept up to our berth in the early morning.

.7.47. The first day in Melbourne I was particularly
(2) impressed by the universal spread throughout the city of INDIAN MINAHS and TURTLE-DOVES, both of which were far more numerous than I can ever remember.

.7.47. We went for a drive in the Dandenongs. Our
(13) first stop was for a flock of BELL-BIRDS which could be heard all about us but as usual not in sight. A pair of CRIMSON ROSELLAS

fed quietly on the road-side as we walked to within ten yards of them giving from a splendid sight of her first parrots. Even when they flew it was only to a perch just above our heads. WHITE-BACKED MAGPIES and MAGPIE-LARKS were both very common in the ~~bush~~ country. MINAHS were in flocks in open country. Several KOOKABURRAS were seen close to where a party of boys were picnicing, picking the food from round the tables. They too were silent. TURTLE-DOVES were present in pairs in the bush and made odd companions feeding with the Crimson Rosellas. The latter were also seen in flocks with the EASTERN ROSELLAS. YELLOW ROBINS were everywhere (I had quite forgotten them!) and their repeated, almost mechanical call was the most common sound in the bush. A STRIATED THORNBILL and a pair of WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPERS were seen just at the entrance to Sherbrooke Forest. When we had penetrated into the very damp bush we saw some kind scratchings and then after a rustling obtained a very good view of a female LYRE-BIRD, an elf like with large head moving quietly through the under-growth with the inevitable fellow rokin in attendance. Once more in the open country

on the way back to Melbourne were SWANNOTS and it then struck me as odd to have this kind about when it was the middle of winter

7.7.47. We went for a drive down the Bay to Mornington returning by the Pt. Nepean Rd. SWANNOTS were again felt as incongruous but down the Bay PACIFIC GULLS (singly or in small groups) and SILVER GULLS in hundreds were very much in their place. The latter were indulging in a type of display* but of what nature could not be decided. As we had lunch at Brighton a flock of LITTLE BLACK CORMORANTS flew off shore into a head wind coming from the N.W. at first bunched and then strung out into a long echelon, landing on the water 200 yds to our right. They then drifted back, down-wind and parallel to the shore. It was soon noticed that they were over a school of fish but if they knew when they flew past us that there was a school there and if so, how they knew, I do not know. They were continually diving so that at least half were under water at the same time. The SILVER GULLS flocked in the air over them harassing them as they came to the surface with their

prey and even chasing them when a Cormorant flew off to escape the pestering. The Gulls were also fluttering out the water and feeding off it. The flock then split in two, the larger drifting on with the wind, the other returning into the wind feeding all the time and continually mobbed by the GULLS; LITTLE PIED CORMORANTS were also seen.

9.9.47 Just before leaving Joan and I went for a
(29) walk round Spring St. and Exhibition Gardens and I made the following list. STARLING, SPARROW, INDIAN MYNAH, TURTLE-DOVE, BLACK-BIRD, THRUSH, GOLDFINCH and GREENFINCH (heard only); MAGPIE-LARK, MAGPIE, SCARLET ROBIN and WREN. Twelve birds of which two-thirds are introduced!!

On the trip up to Colac were seen SWANS by the Old Swamp side out of Melbourne, MAGPIES, CROWS and SWALLOWS. WHITE-WAGTAILS were very common in the young plantations next the road. Two PLOVERS were seen in the paddocks by water. Though Shelter Banded or Spur-winged I could not tell.

We had lunch on the foreshore at Cairo where we saw on the lagoon SILVER GULLS, PACIFIC GULLS, LARGE and LITTLE PIED CORMORANT, LARGE PIED CORMORANT, HERON and CRESTED TERN. A SKYLARK was singing and BROWN-THROATED THORNBILLS were in the Casuarinas as

I go on, [illegible]

When we arrived at Burnville I was greeted with CRIMSON ROSELLAS, a WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER and a GREY FANTAIL — a very welcome trio to find in one's own garden.

10.7.47

(12)

Besides the three birds mentioned above, Colac was soon found to have a large population of its own. MAGPIE-LARKS, MAGPIES and even a KOOKABURRA was heard calling in the morning (though it is possible that it was not a wild bird). TURTLE-DOVES were plentiful in pairs and here I can never remember having seen in Colac before. SPARROWS and STARLINGS of course! YELLOW-WATTLE-BIRDS are plentiful, particularly round the Hospital. But the most surprising increase in the numbers of SILVER GULLS which are all over Colac in small groups or in large flocks, feeding in back-yards, roads and empty blocks. The variety and number of birds was well exemplified by a walk Joan and I took through the gardens on this Sunday — a fine, sunny afternoon. STRIATED THORNBILLS, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS, GOLDFINCHES, BLACKBIRDS, SWALLOWS, WHITE-PLUMED HONEYEATER, NATIVE THRUSHES and CRIMSON ROSELLAS in large numbers in that immature plumage which once puzzled me so. These birds, with many of the others mentioned above were in

to Gardens and by the lake were WHITE-FACED HERONS, an EGRET, LITTLE BITTERN CORMORANTS, BLACK DUCK, BLUE-WINGED SHOVELLERS (a pair) and MUSK DUCK. It was subsequently noticed that there is constantly present in the bay east of the Point a party of six or so of the latter duck which are so distinctive – even when they are almost only dots on the water. A single PLOVER (species?) flew along the shore, calling. All these together with a SILVER-EYE which was heard singing a very soft melodious song from the rhododendrons in Brewelle Avenue to GLAC species within twelve days of arrival up to twenty-six!

27.9.47 We went for the day down to Irvine, lunching at
16 the Pacific Hotel and going for a walk up the Cumberland in the afternoon. On the way down besides MAGPIES and SWALLOWS we saw a beautiful flock (circ 200) SULPHER-CRESTED COCKATOOS feeding on hay in a paddock which had been put down for cattle. Keeping up a constant harsh call they would walk along into the wind, all the time odd birds flying up to the front. On alarm they would all rise together and the yellow under wing coverts were beautifully shown. In Irvine was seen a female or immature BLUE WREN, a WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER, MAGPIE-LARK. While on the shore were SILVER GULLS and one ~~BEA~~ PLOVER (species). Up the

COMPARATIVELY we saw a pair of GREY CURRAWONGS whose call I had forgotten, YELLOW ROBINS whose call was again everywhere, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS and STRIATED THORNBILLS one of which was so tame that it remained literally at our feet as we approached, GREY FANTAILS feeding in the rain from branches and over the river, KOOKABURRAS (silent again!) and on a stump in the middle of the stream [illegible] — the existence of which I had [illegible].

11, 13. 8. 47 In these two windy showery days I got calls to [illegible] MAGPIES were plentiful everywhere particularly by a pine plantation. From the ground on the windward side they would rise and sweep up and backwards over the pines. MAGPIE-LARKS were at rainy water and farms. The NATIVE THRUSHES were extremely common in the roads by young plantations and by farms where also were WILLIE-WAGTAILS + SCARLET ROBINS. A pair of EASTERN ROSELLAS rose from the trees by a stream and nearby a flock of GOLDFINCHES. On a haystack was watched over by a BROWN HAWK perched on a fence-post.

14. 8. 47 A call came [illegible] MAGPIES + MAGPIE-
(19) LARKS were plentiful throughout the open country. On Balls Dam were PURPLE-WATER-HENS first there I had always remembered seeing them, feeding on the sand by the west [illegible]

the open water were SCOTS (a touch of ENGLAND) and LITTLE GREBES. SWANS were everywhere on the water and feeding on the squelchy land. and there were also ten ibis each occupied with a sitting bird. With the weather wet and black they struck me as very early (as of course the first nesting bird in each season) and SWALLOWS and FAIRY MARTINS fed low over the water.

The ridge from the edge of the rush (where noticed one always to be seen - EASTERN & CRIMSON ROSELLAS this time) along to Yodden & Cullacumera is packed with birds and is the most fruitful hunting ground I have found so far - NATIVE THRUSHES, SCARLET & FLAME ROBINS, YELLOW ROBINS and KOOKABURRAS (much on the ground), WRENS - two beautiful males and a flock of RED-BROWED FINCHES which kept moving just in front of me as I walked up the track. A flock of SULPHUR CRESTED COCKATOOS was seen in the distance wheeling over the rush. A pair of SHELDUCK rose from a paddock and flew [illegible]

16.8.47 On a trip to Melbourne I had a good day. A CROW on a nest in a solitary gum by the Warrenbayne with of course the MAGPIES and MAGPIE-LARKS always. WILLIE-WAGTAILS by every plantation flying out from branch or post to flutter 4 or 5 feet over the ground

GOLDFINCHES in small flocks but more than one became accustomed to in England. [illegible] SKYLARKS were seen, [illegible]. SWALLOWS appeared to be on the migrate but no definite movement was noticed. YELLOW-THROATED THORNBILLS were seen by nearly every young plantation at the roadside. A solitary [illegible] was feeding in a marsh and a KESTREL was seen, just as its English counterpart [illegible]. STARLINGS, [illegible] were never in large flocks - perhaps it is too [illegible] season. A WHITE-FRONTED CHAT surprised me by appearing at [illegible] age on the road side and there was another one by Lara though that was [illegible] them. In both places the sides of the road were sodden. Just going into WERRIBEE a flock of BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKES flew over the road - extremely handsome. [illegible] As soon as Melbourne came - Footscray cemetery - the TURTLE-DOVES appeared, the SWIFTS [illegible] and finally the INDIAN MYNAHS could be seen in large flocks [illegible] by the river in Toorak. A drive along the Esplanade showed the [illegible]

31.8.47 We took a picnic tea to Yedarne. It was pouring
(4) with rain on the drive out but it eased as we boiled the kettle until eventually the sun appeared and it was a most calm evening. Even in the pouring rain we had seen CRIMSON ROSELLAS at their usual place by the road. When evening came birds all around us broke into song. A pair of WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATERS played from the twigs of a bush, flying up into the air and behaving exactly as do flycatchers or fantails. An invisible golden whistler was the exact pitch of the wattle on which they were. BLUE WRENS were singing, vigorously and though many "bush" birds were seen - only one Whitey. YELLOW ROBINS were heard with their sad repetitive note gradually getting slower and weaker as if they were running out of breath. MAGPIES TOO were calling. Many other songs were heard - one perhaps that of the white-plumed Honeyeater but the majority I did not recognize. The evening was drawing in so that I could not search for and find the originator of a song but yesterday enhanced its reputation for birds. In only one respect did it fail short - I still to hear her first robin.

9.9.47. This morning I was able to spend a few
7 minutes in the morning by the lake-bank. There

was not a breath of wind. The sky was June blue and even the lake looked beautiful. The mornings had been showing a gale from the west with frequent heavy rainstorms. There had not been a bird to be seen on or near the lake. This morning the ~~yellow~~ WATTLE-BIRD was in its accustomed grove of flowering gums. The WHITE-FRONTED CHAT was seen for a glass in its haunt at the western end of Greens Avenue. A single ~~BANDED~~ SPUR-WINGED PLOVER then calling along the edge of the lake alighting by the shore where I had been accustomed to see the pair. Whether one is nesting I don't know but this one ran daintily along the "seaweed" craning its head down to feed. Four MUSK DUCK, three male & one female, floated thirty yard out; one diving, the other time being content to swim round and round, simply oiling away. SILVER GULLS were there but in less numbers. They are also not so plentiful in Colac so I think that the island in Lake Corangamite near London must now be well tenanted. Far to the west, in Six Bird Bay I could see the PELICANS. By the waters edge near the point were a pair of WHITE-FACED HERONS. The geese had gone

13.9.47 Colac – The Lake-Bank. Visited in the morning during my rounds. It was a perfect [illegible] calm day [illegible] the sun was [illegible] days when L. Colac really rises above itself. Opposite Queen's Avenue to the west of Colac there were SILVER GULLS scattered over the lake. BLACK SWANS could be immediately spotted in pairs at various parts of the lake – even in the centre by a pair of black sticks – the smaller ones [illegible] the same [illegible]. [illegible] HERON stalked along the edge and there was one perched on the end of the pier. One LITTLE PIED CORMORANT was being harried by a pair of GULLS and [illegible] CORMORANTS were [illegible] in the creek. A MUSK DUCK floated off some by and an occasional part of that area of the lake. But in the centre were scattered many duck whose [illegible] I could not tell out. The reason was it that I went down to [illegible] Bay and ran out to the [illegible] of some I could see [illegible] in the creek. There was a fine selection – 20 species of CORMORANT BLACK SWANS, HERONS (again one perched on a fence post), 3 PELICANS sitting dreamily on a small spit, COOTS, CRESTED GREBES and about 20 MOUNTAIN DUCK walking by the water or afloat, intending to FOOD. There were

with them some BLACK DUCK. Near at hand were MAGPIES MAGPIE-LARKS, HATCHBIRDS, WHITE-EYES, STARLINGS, SPARROWS singing over head. [illegible] to the east the large cry of a [illegible] PLOVER. The day was dull but it did not rain. [illegible] sound and [illegible] birds.

3.4.47. Ian and I in the evening went for a drive out along Quinns Rock, Mangaroon W., to Innaloo. There we tried to get through to Bungadin but could not find a track. So we made for Swan Farm and returned via the Stirlings. It was an evening to delight Ian as we heard coots and saw many water birds on the west. The bush was not from showers. On the fringes of the bush we met a few CHIPPING ROSELLAS and [illegible] EASTERN ROSELLAS particularly [illegible] where they flashed by [illegible] in pairs. Sat in gums listening to them. Some MAGPIES were seen as were their nests, but few MAGPIE-LARKS. STARLINGS were ever there and must cause considerable [illegible] to the [illegible] for nesting sites in that area. Many MOUNTAIN DUCK were seen in [illegible] mate being [illegible] at the time [illegible]

SOUTHERN-CRESTED EGRETS [illegible] in [illegible]
Jabiroo and as Joan suggested, the observation
may well have been due to nesting. In the bush
we saw [illegible] GREY FANTAILS [illegible] VIOLET
EARED ROBINS, BROWN-FACED HONEYEATERS and NATIVE
[illegible] [illegible] were the ~~yellow~~ [illegible] WHITE-BIRDS in bush and
[illegible] BLACKBIRD [illegible]
in the township of Zimmiriere. A BLACK-FACED
CUCKOO SHRIKE was spotted in Zimmiriere. A
BLUE-WREN and a BROWN [illegible] were seen in the
rises and as we were just leaving town with
the sun setting behind us a SILVER GULL flew,
brilliantly white against a black cloud.

14.9.47 After the feast of the previous afternoon we
:3 made good use of my first week-end off for
some weeks by rising at 6.0 A.M. and setting
forth for Jane. It was a glorious morning
giving promise of an exceptionally fine day -
that in fact it turned out to be. The
morning was still-coloured [illegible] made
[illegible] were on the plains
in two hundred and as we passed Warncoort
[illegible] a pair mobbed a ~~RAVEN~~ [illegible] bringing it to
[illegible] the NOISY MINER was on a [illegible]

20st September rainfall. In my memories of Northern Rivers are from a paddock beside rainfall, a fact which is emphasized by the Northern dwellers who say that though the knows of them in abundance in that part he has only seen 2-3 a stranger he whose [illegible] [illegible] av of SWALLOWS were flying among [illegible] in the last [illegible] "[illegible]" were [illegible] March. In the later [illegible] [illegible] were [illegible] time were [illegible] and chicks 2 [illegible] [illegible] in a paddock. [illegible] of EASTERN [illegible] we saw at Warwick. [illegible] Bunguna FAIRY MARTINS were [illegible], same a the Barwon 2 and CHIMNEY SWALLOWS made their first appearance flying by the road a little further on. We stopped the car to watch a party of 3 FAN-TAILED CUCKOO - the first cuckoos [illegible] in [illegible] were a pair of WHITE-WAGTAILS [illegible] Pratchet - [illegible] but changing, to [illegible], as I approached. They did not appear to mate to the cuckoos [illegible] [illegible] had [illegible] to see and hear in the stillness [illegible] the birds on all hands.

YELLOW-THROATED THORNBILLS, MAGPIE-LARKS, ~~YELLOW~~ RED WATTLE-BIRDS, SPARROWS, SCALY-BREASTS [illegible]. A little further on we stopped to watch a BROWN HAWK being mobbed by a pair of ~~BANDED~~ SPUR-WINGED [illegible], and a few HERONS scattered on the [illegible] SWALLOWS were abundant here too.

Then we were up into the bush where we immediately were greeted with the calls of [illegible] and BLUE WREN, and the sight of STRATED THORNBILLS, YELLOW ROBINS and SCARLET ROBINS. We drove back to Armidale (to take cars out of [illegible]) and parked it by the Geyser. With the two latter species, the [illegible] made a trio which were all about us. The Scarlet Robin was the only one not singing and was found in the more open parts and on the fringe of [illegible]. Sparrows, of course, were twittering round the [illegible]. Friendly as ever and in cities their place [illegible] GOLD FINCHES. Magpies [illegible] were in the more open paddocks out in the bush while on the fringes and in the bracken were Blue Wrens and RED-BROWED FINCHES. Up on the hill-sides we saw and heard the GREY CURRAWONGS calling "currawong, currawong" (which [illegible] in

[illegible] (the Chickering Lunch [illegible]) and a curious harsh, [illegible] kuggled us.

Then we had a drive on the Phantom Falls track – we [illegible] the air was strong and fresh – where the Native Thrushes were [illegible] in [illegible] numbers. STRIATED Thornbills [illegible] though not in such large numbers as the Yellow-eared Thornbills, and YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS chipped [illegible] WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER climbed up a tree very much as a Tree-creeper feeding on insects [illegible] FLAME ROBINS [illegible] the hen being very diffident to the new Scarlet Robin, with [illegible]

Back at Allenvale for lunch and a very quiet afternoon after lunch by the [illegible] we saw a large [illegible] organized and [illegible] them in gardens and parks, they looked very much as if they had "gone rush". A Fantail Cuckoo was heard [illegible] and a JACKY WINTER sat on a fence post [illegible] RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRDS were heard.

We left Allenvale in the early afternoon and got out the Ocean Road.

course were on the rocks but not in great numbers. Just as we left some a pair of GANNETS came down the coast flying S.-W. at about 60 above the still blue water. One dived, straight as an arrow with tremendous force. Though they often feinted no other dive was seen before they became white specks against the bush on the head land. On our drive along, a few days since we saw White-cheeked Honeyeaters BLACKBIRDS Blue wrens, Striated Thornbills, a scrub-wren of sorts (I must track one down one of these days) and Yellow-wattled Wrens.

As we came into Freys little Red Cormorants were airing their wings in the afternoon sun. We spent the evening with the Allan Nobles. By their house, Tuckanarck, is a swamp (lagoon sic) on which are a mixture of duck. The wild BLACK DUCK have been crossed with the farmyard variety and Mallards – the results being most confusing. They came to feed at the Nobles call suddenly round us – one even stepped on my [illegible] HOARY-HEADED GREBES were also resting on the swamp and the previous year had caused a nuisance of themselves by diving [illegible]

under the duckings, grabbing & breaking her egg.
We made our trip back by night —
the only time [illegible]
[illegible] previously.
It was a truly magnificent day — one in fact
I have been dreaming about for years.
[illegible] first WOMBURRA,
once in the rush at Beans Marsh, then again
at the Nobles at Hungry Point.

9.9.47. Joan and I had an invitation to lunch at
Whitehill and went at midday. It was a showery
day with high winds in mid Renmark & some
which freshened the plains. We drove there
in raincoats were the same as we have met
on many recent occasions, even as far as a
pair of MAGPIES [illegible] in exactly the
same place as a fortnight ago. Having turned
off to the left we broke new ground onto the
plains with the rocky volcanic outcrops in all
directions making the land undulating. In a
paddock were large numbers of crows — and
they were still there on our return in the afternoon.
The Magpies and MAGPIE-LARKS were scattered in
pairs across the plains. PIPITS were seen in fair
numbers but only one SKYLARK.

few hastily for cover off the road into the hedgerows, a BROWN HAWK sat on a fence-post and was not long left in peace, for it was soon mobbed by a pair of excited SPUR-WINGED ~~BANDED~~ PLOVERS, a pair of MOUNTAIN DUCK had three chicks with them making off at high speed, the hen with the chicks the cock, a much larger bird bringing up the rear. A flock of YELLOW-TAILED TITORNBIRDS flew up from the road, perched, flashing, as they made for a more quiet habitation. A HERON and a pair of WHITE-FRONTED [illegible] completed our list on the way out.

Mr Kerr has a wonderful garden which was alive with birds - GOLDFINCHES everywhere, the air full of their sweet twittering. A BLACKBIRD skulked on the lawn, all up. The most noticeable birds however were a pair of RESTLESS ~~FLYCATCHER~~ FLYCATCHERS hovering over the lawn and diving down to the ground. Their action was similar to the WILLIE-WAGTAIL (which we saw just outside the garden, one bird riding on a cows back) for they rose from the ground, hovered, and dived down. Only once did I see one perched on a fence-post. Their excited grating was uttered as they hovered just before diving down for an insect - a kind of Tally-ho

SPARROWS were round the buildings and STARLINGS at one stage further removed. A flock of immature CRIMSON ROSELLAS [illegible] and fed in the trees, a WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER flutted about from bush to bush and SWALLOWS [illegible] as they [illegible] and fed in and under the eaves.

Mr. Ramsay and I talked birds a great deal. He showed me his bird book in which he kept notes on birds as well as flowers and animals since 1909 at least. The entries under Biologa and Busiava were interesting as indeed were many other entries. He took me to a plantation near a swamp and as we walked through it I counted twenty-one SNIPE rise and zig-zag off over [illegible] utterly their hoarse grating cry. On the swamp there were a pair of BLACK DUCK and a solitary SILVER GULL [illegible] on a dead.

On the way back, a mile or so south-east of Mt. Greenhrandi a hawk took up from the side of the road. I got out and went back. I was well rewarded by the sight of a BLUE-WINGED PARROT feeding in the road. It flew up and [illegible]. When flushed it [illegible]

fence, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. It called with a sweet twittering note. – my first New Bird since I got back.

At Yarrigan where we had tea we were in the ~~heart~~ open most type of country peculiar to that part. Mammals gums scattered on the hill. The first and most noticeable bird was the NOISY MINER, bold and in flocks. Second in conspicuousness was the EASTERN ROSELLA in noisy flocks, feeding on the ground or darting round the trees. ~~Fairy~~ FAIRY MARTINS and ~~Yellow~~ WATTLE-BIRDS abounded and over the house flew a WHISTLING EAGLE. That each of typical country yielded fine very typical birds.

10.49 Joan had gone down by the morning train to Geelong and as soon as I could get away I drove round and joined her. We then drove out to Anakie Gorge, marvelling at the stamina I had at school to do that distance and [illegible] – a distance which I will remember for the birds were calling their first of the day in an [illegible] a chorus I have never forgotten.

The first bird to attract our attention was a TRICKY WINTER flying off from a fence post [illegible]

calling sweetly. A little way away were a pair of RESTLESS FLYCATCHERS hawking in the manner so typical, [illegible] A PIPIT sat on the side of the road looking up at us, and several ~~[illegible]~~ SKYLARKS sang and sang high in the sky. MAGPIES, RAVENS, GOLDFINCHES were in the fields about us and in the [illegible] MAGPIE LARKS and NATIVE THRUSHES were heard. KOOKABURRAS laughed more caustically than [illegible] GOSHAWK flew along the [illegible] and [illegible] was out of the [illegible] birds.

EASTERN ROSELLAS flew screaming, [illegible] RED WATTLE-BIRDS made [illegible] calls. A well-remembered bird of that part was the NEW-HOLLAND HONEYEATER which flew in flocks noisily chasing [illegible] of [illegible] entered the bush proper we saw a pair of immature CRIMSON ROSELLAS sitting side by side on a bough.

Crossing a stream we came up onto a small level area in which grew a few young saplings and round about was thicker bush. We [illegible] stood and watched as the birds came [illegible]

First a WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER came and fed, hanging upside down in the foliage. A [illegible] flew from tree to tree uttering a brief song. A TREE-CREEPER crept upwards, but not minute-like, [illegible] BLUE WRENS and YELLOW [illegible] sang all about. A DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW flew up and made a high piercing trill, while two DIAMOND SPARROWS sat on a twig and jumped up and down [illegible]

We walked on up to Gorge and came across a flock of THORNBILLS and [illegible] The WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER was seen easily confused with the [illegible] and [illegible] GREY FANTAILS of course were present. Suddenly a wild clapping of wings sent our right [illegible] Swiftly opening and [illegible]

Back at the car before we left a SWALLOW flew round us and a pair of SWALLOWS were foraging in a nearby field. I had forgotten what a good place ONAKIE was [illegible] they were around in Sundays.

This was the last Sunday Jean and I would have à deux to ourselves [illegible]

the Apollo Bay road. The weather was [illegible] showery [illegible] but it was mild and very pleasant driving [illegible] the [illegible] road. So we immediately ran into the trio – MAGPIES, RAVENS, MAGPIE-LARKS, the former in large numbers [illegible] which was carefully imitating its parent. SWANS led well grown cygnets out a rise in the water-weed appears to have [illegible] [illegible] on [illegible]. COOT and WATER HEN were there as were a HERON, SWALLOWS, FAIRY MARTINS a SPURWINGED [illegible] and [illegible] MUSK DUCK [illegible] on [illegible] At the far end a MOUNTAIN DUCK [illegible]. By a farm – a SPARROW of course.

Into the edge of the rush by [illegible] and a pair of EASTERN ROSELLAS flew across the road. A NOISY MINER and a pair of BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKES [illegible] to the locality. STARLINGS and RED WATTLE-BIRDS were the [illegible] [illegible] found.

Into the rush and the BLUE WREN and SCARLET ROBIN were immediately [illegible]

[illegible] were YELLOW-ROBINS, GREY FANTAILS and a single YELLOW-TAILED HONEY[illegible] Then to our surprise three floated over the bush [illegible], soaring round and round till they finally disappeared. A solitary SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO made a lovely picture [illegible] NATIVE THRUSHES and [illegible] were deep in the bush at Barraumunga as were BLACK BIRDS and GOLDFINCHES. I notice that the two latter birds are frequently found in the same habitat in the bush, in partially cleared land. A WHITE-SHRIKE [illegible] made land fussy calls as we approached [illegible] where we also met KOOKABURRAS, RED CURRAWONGS and a RED-BROWED [illegible]. Then we spotted a WHITE GOSHAWK sitting on the top of a burnt stump. A really beautiful sight. When it flies the wings give its motion a sailing softness, not unlike that of a cockatoo. Its yellow legs are striking. Just before we moved on we saw the flight of [illegible]. Very little was seen or heard in Turton's Pass where we had lunch. But on emerging [illegible] we saw a pair of GREY CURRAWONGS – with stupid walk like an overfed Starling.

Passing along the ridge of Beech Forest there is a fine plantation on the left in which sat a solitary Crimson Rosella and a large flock of Goldfinches flew down from the trees to the open ground. We have saw a solitary [illegible] from Beech Forest we again saw a pair of WEDGE [illegible] soaring out from the hillside at [illegible] was interesting to see them use their wedge-shaped tail for steering. A little further down we saw a third WHITE-GOSHAWK at first in a tree with [illegible] and from there it flew to a fence-post [illegible] road. Another were of a [illegible] bird.

The [illegible] bird seen was in the Gellibrand Valley where DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOWS were numerous. One bird, the FRAMPE [illegible] which we saw in [illegible] brings to a very handsome [illegible] particularly as [illegible] time [illegible]

23.10.47 I had a call to Salmon in the morning — the [illegible] shores of Lake Blac, [illegible] with [illegible] it is an undulating country [illegible] with volcanic rocks with groups of fine trees [illegible]

[illegible] end of Ivan's lake [illegible] extension. To the westernmost tip of the lake is a small flooded swamp on which were hundreds of birds. It was a cold day with a strong S-W wind bringing up heavy showers and I decided to come back in two days time, on my afternoon off to investigate further. To any bird I saw then which was not present then I returned. I did see the WHISKERED TERN - a small [illegible] was beating up and down the shore.

25.10.47 I returned on a warm afternoon with a slight
(22) breeze to the same spot - equipped with camera which I had no opportunity to use. Of the birds of that particular country-side the most common was the MAGPIE of course; many immature birds were seen on the ground. MAGPIE-LARKS, RAVENS STARLINGS, SPARROWS, SKYLARKS (singing magnificently) and PIPITS were all to be expected in that habitat. The originating YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL was there in small parties as were a very large number of GOLDFINCHES. Both the latter species I think were particularly abundant because of the pines and cypresses, from which the twittering of the GOLDFINCHES could always be heard. The odd WILLIE WAGTAIL fluttered over the road-side pools and here on the first day was a flock of SWALLOWS which hovered into

the wind a few inches from the water. In my second day the only birds I saw was one which came, back snapping low over the meadow in the evening. A single KESTREL hovered over the fields. SILVER BULLS were in large flocks behind the bungalow in wet fields. They flew singly over the paddocks bumping from side to side, but many were on the swamp itself. HERONS stood singly by the water, one flying low over me croaking, to settle on a stone on the top of an outcrop, crouched forward, statuesque.

On the surface of the swamp were SWANS — I counted 432 of them, most of them feeding with necks extended down, bills dabbling on the bottom. Among them were many MOUNTAIN DUCK, some with young. While on a nearby roadside paddock was a flock of fifty or so. Hundreds upon hundreds of BLACK DUCK floated on the surface rising in flocks to circle at great speed before twisting into the water again.

On the edge of the swamp were WHITE-HEADED STILTS poised on long legs, heads thrown forward, bills sinking into the moist grass. As I was lying on the ground one flew over the - very red legs trailing - yelping like a small puppy. Also in the water were sandpipers, moving now one step to another in [illegible]

[illegible] or leaning in small groups. By crawling I was able on the ground I could approach within a few yards. At first they seemed through the grasses to be just brown and white birds. I watched for an hour, feeding, walking, flying, preening or sleeping. By the end of which I felt I knew every feather and they were a distinct species not just a sandpiper. They were COMMON SANDPIPERS which I had last seen on the banks of the Derwent at Borrowdale!

I walked southwards on the west side of the swamp to the lake which it was separated by some hundred yards of dry land. There were twenty five PELICANS which swam disdainfully out as I neared more SWAN and MOUNTAIN DUCK as well as several pairs of LITTLE RED CORMORANTS and a single MUSK DUCK. Rain was low as I returned the other side of the swamp and the wind brought across to me the cacophony of SWANS - white - who cared as the fed in hundreds on the swamp.

26.10.47. (34) On the following day - a warm and rather close one - I went in the afternoon to Fordene. To the north and west was bush which had at one time been cleared and is now a new growth of gums. While a few hundred yards away is a gully as deep and wet as any in the Otways. To the south is a beautiful view of

Barwon Downs with the Ships in the distance. The air was full of bird song.

The most striking bird was the WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER whose call came from all quarters - "Hycoo-rup", rich and fruity while they hovered or exploded to bark and the leaves of its prey. Then YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS also were calling from the bush, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS and STRIATED THORNBILLS fluttered from bush to bush. In the more open country KOOKABURRAS and MAGPIES called, MAGPIE-LARKS fed on the ground while BLUE WRENS sang from the bracken.

We then walked into the scrub where a YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATER sat preening itself in silence in a bush. A PEREGRINE FALCON flew with an arrow over to bush. In a short time it reappeared flapping vigorously to gain height before sailing with wings half-closed on a WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE which glided serenely and undisturbed to the south. Over in bush flew a pair of RAVENS, cawing loudly while from the depths came the sang of the NATIVE THRUSH. We drobbed down into the gully and a pair of WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WRENS were feeding silently close-by. A YELLOW ROBIN fluttered to a sapling where it stuck sideways, watching me with bright eyes. Their call was not nearly so common as it was a month or so ago. Up and

gully I made a quick back to the car through scrub where a RESTLESS FLYCATCHER flew uttering a sharp grating note to proclaim its identity, and a party of RED BROWED FINCHES flew over, their mournful note proclaiming them. Back at the car a BLACKBIRD flew, startled, out of a bush, clacking madly and discordantly. A BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE sat on the limb of a dead tree grating harshly. RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRDS were heard.

On the way back EASTERN ROSELLAS were seen in the patch of open forest while both PIPITS and SKYLARKS flew by the road as it ran between paddocks. Two FLOCKS of BANDED PLOVERS on each side of the road fed with little runs in the grass. Passing Ballis dam I noticed a flock of 20 SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS, SWANS, HERONS, EASTERN SWAMPHENS and a pair of MOUNTAIN DUCK. A single DABCHICK swam on the surface of a small dam in a paddock, but when I got out to investigate it disappeared completely and apparently for good.

15.11.47. We took tea out to Jordane, including Richard, three
(37) and a half weeks old. We went up the hill just beyond Cilhannuna drawing the car in just where we took ground after the valley clearing.

On Balls dam on the way we saw the EASTERN MOORHENS which had left the dam for the

centre of the dam, DUSKY MOORHENS, COOTS, SWANS, GULLS, SWALLOWS, FAIRY MARTINS and in a crack, in some place as [illegible] of SPUR-WINGED PLOVER. In the pines above the dam were YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS and a WHITE-WAGTAIL while in the surrounding, wooded home were the MAGPIES, MAGPIE-LARKS, GOLDFINCHES, STARLINGS and SKYLARKS. No Ravens were seen but new inhabitants of the dam were a group of BLACK DUCK. At the first turn past the dam we picked up [illegible] in the road. It curled & flicked as we stood over it, with mouth open and blue tongue waving. Pucked it up and got well nipped by a closely set row of fine teeth. Just further on we came across the BANDED PLOVER, on either side of the road, exactly where we were twenty days before. Both species of Plover would appear to be extraordinarily local.

In the open forest on the ridge we saw EASTERN ROSELLAS and NOISY MINERS. Going down into the bush were the songs of the WREN, SATINE THRUSH, WHITE EARED HONEYEATER. [illegible] As we descended into the valley a small dark wallaby bounced off the road.

We strolled down a track in the bush. It

sun warm and the bush smelling strongly. A pair of WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATERS fed in the outer foliage of the young eucs. STRIATED THORNBILLS and GREY FANTAILS were [illegible] plentiful. A WHITE-THROATED ~~WOOD-SWALLOW~~ TREE-CREEPER halted in a pool in the track and preened himself at stops on route to the tree-top. A WHITE-BROWED SCRUB WREN rather surprisingly hopped up onto the top of a log surveying the bush about him.

Back at the car a SCARLET ROBIN hovered round as we had tea. I then walked on the fringe of the bush in open forest and first saw a pair of DUSKY WOODSWALLOWS ~~[illegible]~~ twirling above the trees. A TAWNY WINTER flew from stump to stump and eventually flew angrily at a KOOKABURRA which flew off to join several others in a wild chorus of laughing. CRIMSON ROSELLAS foraged the bush round from the stream below voice [illegible] [illegible]. A KESTREL flew over the bracken from a dead ring-barked tree. The last sounds from the bush as we left were the calls of YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS and a FANTAIL CUCKOO. As we emerged out of the bush a large grey kangaroo hopped along by the car.

16.11.47. The following day I set out at 5.45 a.m. for Grub Lane on the Geelong-Anakeliffe road to join the G.G.S. Bird Club camp under Mr.

Pender. Bright and sunny as I set off it soon clouded over and became cool during the morning the clouds cleared until at midday it was hot and [illegible]. I arrived at 7 o'clock to find them leaving now breakfast with some others still I came on. I had a bit to eat and set off I find the [illegible]

It was dry bush on sandy soil with little growth [illegible] Here are bushes [illegible]

Nearby was a reservoir, with little water in it extensive reeds and sand flats surrounding the reservoir was [illegible] and one large field of wheat. We are Pender returning from setting up the camera at the

nest of a BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE. We returned and had some breakfast. The camp was in a clearing and the birds immediately THROUGH were WHITE [illegible] flitting round and singing. The boys had been looking for a nest and later in the day I found the beginning of a nest on a [illegible] gum sapling some 4 ft from the ground. It had not yet been firmly bound to the sapling and looked most unstable as the bird stood on it working fresh material into it. WHITE-PLUMED HONEYEATERS abounded in large numbers keeping chiefly to [illegible] and [illegible]. I saw one nest later a thin cup shaped structure [illegible] swung amongst the foliage on the periphery of a young gum. Many too I found [illegible] NATIVE [illegible] were singing a duet as a [illegible] were BLUE WRENS at a nest of which I later watched [illegible] Pounder setting up his camera. A thin dome-shaped

nest, it was 1½ ft from the ground in a [illegible] made of small grasses and containing young. Throughout the day I found as many Bluebirds as I did [illegible] NOISY MINERS were also in this type of bush and it often was [illegible] that they kept to that part where there was little or no undergrowth — [illegible]. They were also found in the pine [illegible] by the [illegible].

After breakfast we set out to the Black Swan Cuckoo-shrikes nest — where the camera was set up — some 15 ft up on a [illegible] rather by God and by guess but seven pictures were [illegible]. We then moved on to the other end of the reservoir where a camera was set up at the nest of a Native Thrush in a pine, leaving a boy hidden in a ditch with a long string trailing. With one boy I walked round the reservoir back to the car. EASTERN ROSELLAS and STARLING were feeding in the [illegible] open farm, while a SWAMP-HAWK flew high over a wheat-field where it was thought to have a nest. SWALLOWS and FAIRY MARTINS hawked insects over the water, and along the edge were many pairs of WHITE-FRONTED CHATS

and two BLACK-FRONTED DOTTREL. Walking on the stones at the end of the dam was a COMMON SAND PIPER with well marked ~~[illegible]~~ brownish breast and the same tail-pattern as those seen on Lake [illegible]. The SNIPE rose and zig-zagged away over the reeds. Approaching the bush again we heard MAGPIE LARKS and SKY-LARKS while on the open ground round about were a pair of SPUR-WINGED PLOVER MAGPIES and RAVENS. As we left the bush we saw a KOOKABURRA and in a [illegible] gum was an EASTERN SHRIKE-TIT.

I then set about photographing a DUSKY-WOOD SWALLOW on her nest which was built in the space between the trunk and the bark which curved away from it. It was some six feet from the ground and the tripod was erected on "extensions", the camera set at six feet and the rubber bulb attached. Very quickly the bird returned and with press of the bulb my first bird photo was taken. Another five quickly followed the bird being either on the nest or just approaching. I then moved off to the nest of a ~~[illegible]~~ YELLOW ROBIN which was even tamer and easier. In fact I even tried time exposures of up to 10 seconds at

f64 but over exposed the film! The results were fair – in fact most encouraging – bearing the subjects were a bit small. I finished the result.

After lunch I went for an extensive walk and met in addition a NEW-HOLLAND HONEYEATER and heard the GREY-BUTCHER-BIRD though never saw it. I flushed a young BRONZEWING PIGEON which rose with a clatter and overhead a WHISTLING EAGLE floated above the bush.

The boys packed up and were in the truck soon after 3.30 pm and as I was manoeuvring my car out of the lane where it had been parked I noticed a BLACK-FRONTED DOTTREL giving a threat-display in front of my wheel. There, where I had nearly run over it, was a nest, right in the centre of the lane with three eggs. They had been looking for it during the whole week-end and it was only found when it was too late to take any pictures. I had a superb day – a Saturday-party again on grand scale.

6+7. 2. 47 On Saturday afternoon we took Michael and
33 drove down to Gellibrand, just beyond Carlisle River
where the road begins to turn up to the left into
the bush from the valley. The cleared valley
reminded Joan and I of home with the
paddy-fields surrounded by hills and mountains
of jungle - but with a difference, bullocks, sheep
and rabbits in the valleys. I wandered off to
look out the lay of the land and find nests.
I didn't wander far from the valley where
there were GREY FANTAILS and BLUE WRENS singing
in abundance. I soon found a female of the
latter with material in her bill which I followed
to a nearly completed nest three feet from the
ground in a tussock. SWALLOWS and MARTINS
were feeding low over the tussocks while RED-
BROWED FINCHES fed among them on the ground.
GANG-GANG COCKATOOS were heard and not seen.
CRIMSON ROSELLAS both mature and immature
flew & called noisily through the bush. Then
to our surprise a pair of BLUE-WINGED PARROTS
flew across the valley to settle on a dead-tree.
In the evening I again came upon them
- three in all - which flew from the ground
up to a dead tree where they perched silhouetted

against an evening sky. YELLOW ROBINS and NATIVE THRUSHES were of course plentiful and heard singing, on every hand, songs have been in song the finches have their share. EE-AW. [illegible] WOODPECKERS were on stumps surrounding a paddock which was being ploughed, even so often going down on to the earth in search. GOLDFINCHES and BLACKBIRDS were seen everywhere on cleared cultivated ground, the former quite silent. MISS MAGPIE-LARKS were feeding daintily over the paddocks in pairs. A single BLACK FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE was seen in soft undulating flight over the bush. Another surprise in the bush was a SWAMP-HARRIER sailing up and down a bracken covered hillside - far from the swamps and plains with which it is normally associated. Just before leaving a small falcon flew very swiftly along a valley - probably the LITTLE FALCON.

Next day I drove down early this morning a wallaby which was just packing a bag into her sanctuary before scrambling into the bush (off the road). I see up the camera at the wrong rest. I had found the day before but though both birds flew out to the hillock neither visited the nest. After

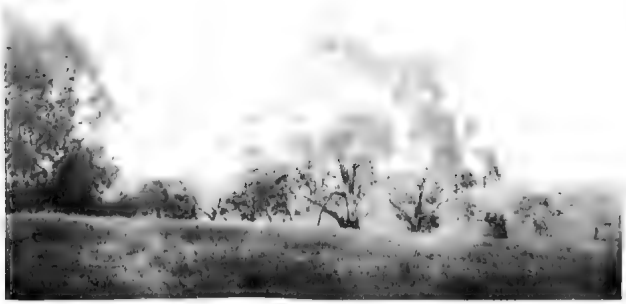
half-an-hour a flock of sheep surrounded me and I packed up with a photo of the nest in no bird. Then I climbed up out of the valley & up the ridge along which I slowly made my way. The inaccessibility was so, one learning up and down the same deal. A pair of DUSKY ~~WHITE-RUMPED~~ WOOD-SWALLOWS chased a WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE noisily nearly up the valley. The previous evening I saw one of a pair of EAGLES in what was probably a courting night - an undulating glide not dissimilar to that of a pigeon.

In the bush were three common honeyeaters - YELLOW-FACED WHITE-EARED and NEW-HOLLAND. There were STRIATED THORNBILLS busily up from a bracken to the lower twigs of the gums. Single GREY-CURRAWONG was seen. On stumps above the bracken and near to each other were a FLAME ROBIN and a JACK WINTER each feeding in a very similar manner. Though not seen a FANTAIL CUCKOO's trill was heard in the bush as also was the unmistakable single note of the ~~ORANGE-TIPPED~~ SPOTTED PARDALOTE.

I then descended from the ridge down some very thick scrub to the gully at the bottom where the first bird I met was a RUFOUS FANTAIL - a great friend of the thick wet gully. WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WRENS twitted anxiously nearby - always a surprise in a bird that is more often heard than seen. - That having lunch by an old saw-mill three more honeyeaters appeared - WHITE-NAPED, WHITE-CHEEKED and EASTERN SPINEBILL, the latter the first meeting since my return. I have seen watching assiduously for it. All around me on both days had been heard the call of the RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD. At last after a long period of still I moved. There was a flash of rufous disappearing into the bracken. At last I have actually set eyes on the bird though ever since I returned I have been surrounded by their calls. It was an extremely fine week-end with good weather - no snakes but no rest either. However I spent the whole day in close contact with the bush (as it was) still showed next day and with its scent.

4 2 47. In the afternoon we went out to Corrigan to play tennis. It was not by any means a bird afternoon but there were fine birds present — which are typical of that kind of country and which I always expect to find there. Eastern Rosellas were in large numbers, mostly immature birds.

Noisy Miners were everywhere and one was seen chasing a Parrakeet. Mr Laurie Dennis told me that they drive all small birds away. A White Eagle flew round and among the gums below the house where it had nested. It can be seen just above Mt. Gellibrand!



Lastly there were Gang-gangs which at one time never left the bush but now are such regular visitors that they are missed if not present.

27.12.47.

(13)

Joan and I drove with Aunt Molly through Reeac and North Cundare to take Karamyamite. The region north of the Warrions is volcanic, much in contour as the Stony Rises but not wooded. But there are the swamps and on these we got beautiful views of AVOCETS, feeding in pairs, walking into the wind along the shore, swinging their bills to and fro under the water. Another pair in the middle of the swamp were floating down wind feeding in exactly the same way as they went. Very many COMMON SANDPIPERS flew and fed by the shores. TERNS rose singly from the water's edge, only few [illegible] throughout the district. ~~For a few~~ WHISKERED TERNS were fluttering above one particular swamp.

We walked out to the end of a PELICAN [illegible] and [illegible] large numbers of MOUNTAIN DUCK which rose in flocks as I approached. The shore was alive with waders — RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL, Curlew-Sandpipers and RED-NECKED [illegible] distinguished from the commoner species by its smaller and darker form. [illegible]

PLOVERS rested in pairs by the lake's edge. In the country round about were seen SKYLARKS, WHITE-FRONTED CHATS and a SWAMP-HARRIER. The lake reeding along the shore

28.12.47 (30) It was a long day I spent by myself exploring the stony ridges between Pirvan Yallock and Pankarneit. I turned down the Hawk's Nest road where I saw a family of 3 or 4 WHISTLING EAGLES about a swamp, perched on rocks and stumps watching carefully. I stopped after about six miles first by a large and very dead snake on the road. Though I spent the whole day scrambling over the rocks in that notorious snake country I never caught site of a live one though I kept a very careful watch out. I did a large circuit from the road, climbing over the rocky barriers down into the steep valleys between them, none of which in that part I found to be swampy. The predominant honey-eater was immediately

seen to be the WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER which is very excessively [illegible]. Shortly I disturbed a flock of SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOOS which when it caught sight of me started the most extraordinary [illegible]. Several birds flew round me and settled in the trees in a ring about me setting up a continual ear-splitting cacophony. After about half an hour they departed leaving an almost

uncanny silence upon the bush which was in reality filled with bird-song. Next I came upon the nest of a RED-TIPPED PARDALOTE some twenty-five feet up in a gum, a small round hole in the main trunk of a gum. I spent forty minutes timing the visits of the parents which were evidently feeding young. Actually the

the whole district rang with their cries "whit-a-took"
Other birds seen in that part of the rises were —

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| BLUE WRENS. | YELLOW WATTLE-BIRD | KOOKABURRA |
| NATIVE THRUSH | DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW | BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE |
| HERON | GOLDFINCH | KESTREL |
| EASTERN ROSELLA | STARLING | SKYLARK |
| MAGPIE | MARTIN | SWALLOW |
| MAGPIE-LARK | FANTAIL CUCKOO | YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER |

For lunch I moved on across the Princes' Highway and turned south from Yankalilla. I made a circle of Mt Bandon and its ring, turning south again and stopping for lunch where the road almost touches the ring. I climbed over the Barrier which is at that point about 30' high and sat for lunch on the inner slope looking round the ring. I was looking round in the trees for the birds when my eyes inevitably hit upon a koala! A large fellow, he was asleep in a fork with his back against the main bough and sitting in what looked like an extraordinarily uncomfortable position. From time to time it shifted position, scratched a very round tummy with small black paws and gave sleepy looks around it. I watched it for half-an-hour

during which time it showed no inclination to move. So I made a circuit of the surrounding bush looking for others. The piece of bush in which it was was most circumscribed being roughly 2 acres with paddocks on all sides and I remember no more. Birds additional to those already seen that day were -

PALLID CUCKOO YELLOW ROBIN YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL
NOISY MINER. GREY BUTCHER-BIRD SWAMP-HARRIER
GREY FANTAIL. COLLARED SPARROW-HAWK

I came straight back to Colac then, collected Michael in his cot and Joan, and hurriedly returned to the Koala. It was still in the same spot and woke as we approached us, staring with small wandering eyes. I got behind it and tapped the trunk. The "bear" climbed down to branch it was on to the main trunk up which it bounded uttering harsh cries. Scurrying, stopping at all, it reached the topmost foliage where it apparently completely forgot us, proceeding to feed upon the young leaves. We were naturally thrilled with our find, returning home after a very fine day.

10.11.1949.

(3)

Jean and I spent the night with Michael at home with Sheila Dennis. It was not a real "Bird-weekend" but I of course [illegible] birds. Walking along the cliffs above the rocks on the way to the beach I had a perfect view of two PEREGRINE FALCONS, perched in a dead gum above a busy road and in front of the houses. Half an hour later I was on the cliffs beyond the [illegible] and it was just to me when I saw bright lifting itself over the waves, a BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS, which took me back most nostalgically to the Orion. And what a contrast in avifauna within an hour - and what a contrast in the perfection of two different forms of flight!

In the garden of the house in which we stayed I saw

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| BLACK-BIRD | KOOKABURRA | BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE |
| GOLDFINCH | GREY FANTAIL. | WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER |
| RED WATTLE-BIRD | NATIVE THRUSH | WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN |
| WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER | SWALLOW | STRIATED THORNBILL |
| WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER | SPOTTED PARDALOTE | BLUE WREN |

After lunch on Sunday I went straight up the hill behind the house

Teddy's look-out where a few more species were seen.

YELLOW ROBIN MAGPIE SCARLET ROBIN

RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD

On the beach were SILVER GULLS and three CRESTED TERNS. On the whole not a very good total for home (not even a pair) but as is shown much of the walking was from the house where the birds were noted in detail — and an Albatross was good to see again!

25.1.45 The family and Aunt Molly who was staying with us went for lunch to Twilight. It was a very hot day with a northerly wind, trying conditions but a day to always associate with the plains. On the plains as we drove out were WHITE-FRONTED CHATS, RAVENS, MAGPIES, BROWN HAWKS, KESTRELS, SWAMP-HAWK and GROUNDLARKS. Around the house in what is an oasis — their gardens — were BLACKBIRDS, huge numbers of GOLDFINCHES, WILLIE WAGTAIL, RESTLESS FLYCATCHER, RED WATTLE-BIRD and SPARROWS.

(24)

In the afternoon I circled the large swamp nearby which had a very rich and varied population on its

surface and round its shores. The first and most outstanding bird was a solitary YELLOW-BILLED SPOONBILL very wary, flying long before I got near it and when a mob of sheep came amaling down to the water it flew with lazy beats around the swamp before gliding down to a new position. Very large flocks of SPUR-WINGED PLOVER stood on the high banks while MAGPIE-LARKS fed singly by the water-edge. On the water were many HOARY-HEADED GREBES MOUNTAIN DUCK BLACK-DUCK a few PINK-EARED DUCK & HARDHEAD. Every so often the duck would rise, circling in large flocks over-head, the faint humming rush of their wings and soft whistling betokening their excitement. Many WHISKERED TERNS fed, diving over the water, the solitary HERON arose suddenly from ~~INVISIBILITY~~ invisibility and as I walked round two SNIPE rose from close to my feet.

It was a perfect day for swamp birds particularly as the heat had concentrated them near the water. But it was not perfect for the watcher who returned full of heat, grass-seeds and thirst.

1.3.48 Joan, Michael and I went out to Warrangarooa.
(23) to the old orchard where we had so many picnics when I was young. It was a fine sunny afternoon with a few clouds blown swiftly across the sky. We were rather harassed by people picking blackberries and having tea within a few yards of us. On the trip out we saw in the more open country MAGPIE-LARKS STARLINGS NOISY MINER and EASTERN ROSELLAS. SWALLOWS are still plentiful both in the open and in the bush and MAGPIES frequent both.

As we drew up we were greeted by a GREY FANTAIL, a pair of young BLUE WRENS, a YELLOW ROBIN calling and the harsh cries of young CRIMSON ROSELLAS. Joan and I walked down into the valley where we heard but did not see the RED-TIPPED PARDALOTE, saw a pair of DUSKY WOODSWALLOWS and a strangely intent WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER. I heard a RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD and stood on the edge of the scrub still for quarter of an hour. Though I heard rustlings I did not catch sight of the bird. While I was watching a BEAUTIFUL FIRETAIL came and perched on the flowers of a tall rush, eating at the seeds. I did not recognize it — certainly that it was a brand "new bird". As I watched I also saw

many WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATERS, mostly young in brown plumage. I returned up the hill to hear GANG-GANGS in the neighbourhood and see a flock of YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS disappear up into a tree. I also saw another thornbill which I at first thought was a Striated Thornbill but which had rather a reddish rump and white-tipped tail. While we were having tea an EASTERN SPINEBILL perked delicately in a nearby tree, a KOOKABURRA flew over and a RED WATTLE-BIRD cackled. I then went back to that thornbill, found him and at long last got a good look at him before he was chased away by a STRIATED THORNBILL. It was in fact a CHESTNUT-TAILED THORNBILL — the second brand "new bird" for the day, which just goes to show what can be done on a Sunday afternoon's outing.

On the Monday + Tuesday I did the Money Testing + Immunization of children at Forrest (9.0 am), Tamworth (9.45 am), Apollo Bay (10.30) Beac. Forest (1.30 pm) Gellibrand (2.30 pm) and Carlisle River (3.15 pm). It was a long trip, about 120 miles but each day gave beautiful weather and it was most enjoyable throughout. I took Taylor, the Borough Health Inspector, with me who

proved good company and was hit at a alarmed by bird-watchers while meandering the bush roads.

Our first area of course, was the Tatham area Colac with its open paddocks and dams. In the former were MAGPIES, MAGPIE-LARKS, [illegible], on the latter were SPRING PLOVER, EASTERN SWAMPHEN, SWANS, WHITE-FACED HERON and one WHITE-NECKED HERON. [illegible] do not remember [illegible] distract [illegible] On the first day there were also MARSH TERNS on the dam.

On the second day EASTERN ROSELLAS and NOISY MINERS were seen on the fringe of the bush. Monday gave us immediately we entered the bush BLUE WRENS, GREY SHRIKE-THRUSHES, SPOTTED PEWEES, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATERS and YELLOW ROBINS. These, with GREY FANTAILS are the "common-birds" of the bush and we were very [illegible] that [illegible] a most absent except for [illegible]. On the second day SWALLOWS were much in evidence. At [illegible] we met SPARROWS, WHITE-THROATED SCRUB-WRENS, KOOKABURRAS, a flock of SILVEREYES and STRIATED THORNBILLS. Higher up round Mt. Zeehan we met CRIMSON ROSELLAS the adults in pairs the immature in flocks, and a RESTLESS FLYCATCHER. At meadow up at Anglesea school a FLAME ROBIN sat when we [illegible].

Then down the Wild Dog Road – 18 miles of river-bed sands round which [illegible] on a very rough surface. The first bird in evidence was the BLUE-WINGED PARROT, three of which were seen [illegible] there and back (four times) in the same place. In the second morning, [illegible] were being chased by a GREY GOSHAWK which [illegible] KESTREL, GOLDFINCHES, BLACKBIRDS, RED-BROWED FINCH and PIPITS were seen on this road as it wound down the steep bald ridge.

We turned at Apollo Bay looking over the rocks and water by the pier. GULLS and CRESTED TERNS were abundant in the second day besides a solitary GANNET. We were at last seen BLACK-SHOULDERED KITES circling in the [illegible] – an extraordinary and most [illegible] sight. Back on the tour round [illegible] where we saw a RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD cross the road and several RED WRENS. Two SCARLET ROBINS were seen and little new except a FAIRY MARTIN at BEECH FOREST until we came down to GELLIBRAND where there were DUSKY-WOOD-SWALLOWS, WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATERS and a pair of COLLARED SPARROW HAWKS. At Barwarook on Tuesday there were a flock of GANG-GANGS

15&16.3.[illegible]

(41) (4) (49)

On this Monday and Tuesday we did the other half of [illegible] — Ferguson (9.0 am) Weeakromah (9.30 am), Wyeangita (10.0 am), Ravens Hill (10.0 am), Kennedys Creek (10 am) and Devondale 11.30 am. We had lunch on the lower Gellibrand road where it parks off — the trees had been turn to shreds probably by Yellow-tailed [illegible]. Then on to lower Gellibrand (1.0 pm) up the ridge to Willong at (1.45 pm) and down to Glen Aire (3 pm). It's a dry road down [illegible] and as I did not want to go back I went across the [illegible] and home through some airing back at 5.0 pm — a twelve hour journey of 85 miles — very tiring but exceedingly fine country. The first day I had no passengers, but the second I took Terrain [illegible] which made a lot of difference. The weather on both days was beautiful. Monday and Tuesday we started off in cloud and [illegible]. I will not enumerate in detail how we came upon each bird but kick out those [illegible]

BLUE-WINGED PARROTS were common on Willong, the ridge, on the Charley's [illegible]

a large flock was seen flying out a great
speed at [illegible] time. One AUSTRALIAN GOSHAWK
was seen at Wuakaraman a WHITE GOSHAWK on
both days a KESTREL on the same post at
[illegible] a [illegible] flight on
a dead tree at Tumbarumba a WHISTLING EAGLE at
[illegible] nine and as dusk was falling on the second
day a PEREGRINE [illegible] on the [illegible]
road. The Raptores were well represented.
BRONZE-WING PIGEONS were met on both days
on the stretch of road between CHAPEL VALE and
Devondale. In a tree [illegible] high urban the
[illegible] by the ocean Rd was a LITTLE GREBE. On
Tuesday the sea off the coast was in [illegible]
[illegible]

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SWALLOW. | [illegible] | RED-BROWED FINCH. | CRESTED TERN. |
| WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPER. | KOOKABURRA. | RUFOUS FANTAIL | HERON |
| GREY-THROATED THRUSH | GREY FANTAIL | RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD | STRIATED FE[illegible] |
| YELLOW ROBIN. | FLAME ROBIN | MAGPIE-LARK | GREY BUTCHER-BIRD |
| STRIATED THORNBILL | GOLDFINCH | SCARLET ROBIN | FANTAIL-CUCKOO |
| MAGPIE | BLACKBIRD | SWAN | BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE |
| WREN | STARLING | SPUR-WINGED PLOVER | GANG-GANG |
| RAVEN | NOISY MINER | MUSK DUCK | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL |
| CRIMSON ROSELLA | SPARROW | SILVER GULLS | FAIRY MARTIN. |
| WHITE-EARED [illegible] | WHITE-BROWED [illegible] | | CHESTNUT-TAILED GROUND-WREN |

20-3-48 On Saturday afternoon Joan Medice and I went
(31) out and had tea at Jindene. It was a warm afternoon sunny with a beautiful view of the valleys to the south. A GREY BUTCHER-BIRD sang under in the valley and WRENS NATIVE [illegible] and ~~[illegible]~~ WHITE-EARED HONEYEATERS sang every [illegible] about. I was fortunately pleased to come across a SPOTTED FIELD-WREN at close quarters for 5 minutes it and watched for some time. Such an unusual bird has given me some hands which is a number enough to make because we hadn't by no. other birds seen that afternoon

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EASTERN-SWAMP-HEN. | BLACK-BIRD | SCARLET ROBIN. |
| DUSKY MOORHEN | WHITE WAGTAIL | JACKY WINTER. |
| SPUR-WINGED PLOVER | RESTLESS FLYCATCHER. | NOISY MINER. |
| WHITE-FACED HERON | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL | RED BROWED FINCH. |
| STARLING | EASTERN ROSELLA | CORRABORRA. |
| MAGPIE-LARK. | WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER. | EASTERN ROSELLA. |
| MAGPIE | GREY FANTAIL | GANG-GANG. |
| RAVEN. | YELLOW [illegible] | |

1-3-48 The following day [illegible] into
(32) the bush for the day - Gellibrand Cutting [illegible]
rivers to Ferguson down the Charley's Gap [illegible] South to
Gellibrand. We had lunch on the lower Gellibrand
where the cockatoos had had [illegible]

[illegible] There was surprised to see a KOOKABURRA glide down from a tree and disappear in [illegible] wings [illegible] [illegible] a fish in its bill. There also was a [illegible] [illegible] over the river and a WHITE GOSHAWK in a tree above [illegible] heavily mobbed by smaller birds.

The lower ground in the Gellibrand Valley is heath-land of grass-trees, dry shrubs and gums frequently much burnt. This very typical country and just before we got to Carlisle Swamp we had lunch at the half-an-hour and saw – BLUE WRENS, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER, YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATER, SWALLOW, FAIRY MARTIN, STRIATED FIELD-WREN, SCARLET ROBIN, STRIATED THORNBILL, SILVER-EYE, CRESCENT HONEYEATER, YELLOW ROBIN.

Other birds seen during the day, –

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EASTERN ROSELLA. | YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER | ROSE ROBIN |
| CRIMSON ROSELLA | RED WATTLE-BIRD. | EASTERN SPINEBILL. |
| MAGPIE | NOISY MINER. | WHITE-NAPED HONEY-EATER |
| MAGPIE-LARK | BLACKBIRD | STARLING |
| NATIVE THRUSH | BROWN TREECREEPER | WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE. |
| GREY FANTAIL | PAINTED QUAIL | RED CURRAWONG. |
| KOOKABURRA | CHESTNUT-TAILED WREN | GANG-GANG |
| RAVEN | SPARROW. | EASTERN SHRIKE-TIT |
| DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW | RED-BROWED FIRETAIL | SPINE-TAILED SWIFT |

22.7.23 [illegible] Another [illegible]

(20) (26) this time in another [illegible]

(21) Train Falcon (9.30 and [illegible]), [illegible] 10 and Hide 30 and Warrian 2.0 kind [illegible]

Both were very hot cloudless days but usual for this time of year. I rode by [illegible] but the [illegible] was [illegible] and I had ample opportunity to keep [illegible] birds. On the second day I visited at lunch the west shore of Lake Wlac because the swamp at Balmain which was so fruitful in [illegible] was [illegible]. There were here simply hundreds of MOUNTAIN DUCK, BLACK DUCK and SWAN, with lesser numbers of PELICANS SILVER GULLS RED-CAPPED DOTTERELS WHITE-FRONTED CHATS [illegible], LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT, PINK-EARED DUCK & MUSK DUCK.

At the end of each day I came out to the Warrucoot but [illegible] where the o'a. of birds on both days was [illegible] MAGPIE RAVEN [illegible] HOVER. STRAW-NECKED IBIS SWAN, WHITE-FACED HERON, DUSKY MOORHEN [illegible] LITTLE GREBE MOUNTAIN DUCK, BLACK DUCK GULL-BILLED TERN, [illegible] SWAMPHENS [illegible] JACKASS BROWN HAWK, WHITE-BREASTED EAGLE.

Besides these, other birds [illegible]

SKYLARK GANG-GANG WHITE COCKATOO

PIPIT STARLINGS SPARROWS GOLDFINCH

GREY FANTAIL YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL KESTREL

15, 16, 21/3/48 (see pp 87 & 89)

A Tree at lower Gellibrand
the bark of which has
been torn to shreds by

15, 16, 21/3/48 see pp 87 & 89

The lower Gellibrand River
showing the stretch of
water into which the

April 3-5th Weekend at Hiney's Inlet

(53) Taking Michael with us, Joan & I spent the weekend at Hiney's Inlet with Mr & Mrs Alan Noble. It was very cool and blowery on the Saturday afternoon on which we went down, but the next day was fine, with small white clouds blown briskly across a blue sky from a south-west. It was a very happy week-end, most successful also from the birds seen.

On the trip down we saw the birds of the plains as far as Toriac - RAVENS MAGPIES and MAGPIE-LARKS. GANG-GANGS were in a plantation near Winnaleah. Turning right into the dry Mess-mate bush past the Prince's signal [illegible] we came upon CRIMSON ROSELLAS and NATIVE THRUSHES. In a pool overlooking a small pool in the rush was a LITTLE PIED CORMORANT.

The Nobles house Huguenot is situated beside the river [illegible] with sand-dunes on the south the seaward side. Trees surround the house which has a garden and fruit-trees including a fig-tree on which the SILVER-EYES were raping themselves. On one side of the house is the lagoon - a very [illegible]

round the house were seen YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATERS [illegible] GREY FANTAIL BLACKBIRD [illegible] WILLIE-WAGTAIL and SPARROWS. In the swamp were MOORHEN, COOT [illegible] BLACK-DUCK - and which did not associate with the sixty or so tame interbred duck there - and [illegible] A duck I counted 97 SWALLOWS on the telephone wires which crossed the swamp.

On Sunday morning I went for a [illegible] the river into the sand-dunes and back along the beach. I saw PIPITS, SPUR-WINGED [illegible] SWANS HERONS WHITE-FRONTED CHATS in the Tesselkrianthemum STRIATED FEJ-WRENS and BLUE [illegible] In the sand-dunes were many GREENFINCHES. In the beach [illegible] and [illegible] but I was very pleased to see a pair of HOODED DOTTEREL on the rocks just above [illegible]

In the afternoon we went into the bush by a nearby creek. The bush was dry the eucalypts being mainly [illegible] and [illegible] so typical of that stretch of coast. The birds were there in hundreds, [illegible] SILVER-EYES and the YELLOW-ROBIN being so tame they [illegible]

after [illegible] As I was walking down the creek a large brown bird was flushed out of the reeds and perched on a log spanning the river. It was obviously an immature Nankeen Night-heron or a BITTERN, and because of the naked and the bi coloured upper mandible the latter was identified it as the latter. The accompanying photo was taken looking across the creek. The overgrown nature of the banks with dense reeds can be seen. On the log in the centre can just be seen the Bittern itself.

In the near-vicinity the following birds were seen in addition to those already mentioned -

WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER
RESTLESS FLYCATCHER
DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW
BROWN THORNBILL
YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER
EASTERN SHRIKE
WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER
DIAMOND SPARROW
RED WATTLE-BIRD
WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPER
ROSE ROBIN
GREY WHISTLER

Walking down the river further I left the road, and got into more open forest with bracken-covered hill-sides. There I saw GOLDFINCHES, RED BROWED FINCHES, GOSHAWK and a [illegible] species. We had our camp with a Mr Ritchie who spends most of his time camped there. In his younger days he used to go out camping with Charles Becker and he now knows so little about birds that he hesitated in giving the Yellow Robin its name!

27

We left at the crack of dawn next morning and as were leaving we saw a pair of WHITE GREBES on the Lower R. and again through were a SCARLET ROBIN.

(60) [illegible] I did the first injection and test of chickens at "Warrnoort", Limeburners, Greenlie, Woolwool and Nalangil. It is all plain country, the latter half being the bare stony Rises, the area outlying from the Warrion group. The following is a list of birds seen on that route:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HERON | MOUNTAIN DUCK | WREN | |
| MAGPIE | PIPIT | WILLIE-WAGTAIL | WHISTLING EAGLE |
| RAVEN | SPARROW | KESTREL | GOLDFINCH |
| MAGPIE-LARK | SWALLOW | BROWN HAWK | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL |
| STARLINGS | SWIFT | COMMON MINER | SPUR-WINGED PLOVER |

RED-WATTLE-BIRD STRIATED FIELD-WREN SCARLET ROBIN
SKYLARK SILVER GULL [illegible]

On the 6th Zali's dam was visited before we began and in addition I saw EASTERN SWAMPHEN, BLACK DUCK and LITTLE GREBE.

The first day after we had finished I went on down through [illegible] a day in wood-cutting work. [illegible] land is high and the camping facilities are [illegible] right [illegible] in addition to a few of the above were —
KOOKABURRA NATIVE THRUSH GREY FANTAIL BROWN THORNBILL
WHITE-EARED HON. CRIMSON ROSELLA DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW PIED CURRAWONG
YELLOW ROBIN, YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO, SPOTTED SCALY-THROAT.

The last mentioned bird was as far as I am concerned, a new one to the district. At Zanthorrhoea East a GREY BUTCHER-BIRD was seen.

7th, 8th and 19th. The following two days were spent testing and summarizing Ellington's, Gevangamete, Barongarook, Zanthorrhoea East, Zanthorrhoea and Warrenmang. Zali's dam was therefore visited each day and the following were seen:

EASTERN SWAMPHEN DUSKY MOORHEN SWALLOW HERON
SWAN MOUNTAIN DUCK STARLING RAVEN
WILLIE-WAGTAIL LITTLE RED CORMORANT [illegible]
BLACK DUCK [illegible]

Other birds seen on this route were MAGPIES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SPARROWS | PIPIT | [illegible] |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | YELLOW-TAILED [illegible] |
| NOISY MINER | CRIMSON ROSELLA | EASTERN ROSELLA |
| GREY BUTCHER-BIRD | STRIATED THORNBILL | BLUE WREN |
| RED BROWET [illegible] | YELLOW [illegible] | GREY FANTAIL |
| JACKY WINTER | NATIVE THRUSH | RED WATTLE-BIRD |
| WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER | SCARLET ROBIN | YELLOW [illegible] |
| BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE | YELLOW-WINGED HON. | ~~[illegible]~~ |
| GOLDEN WHISTLER | DUSKY WOODSWALLOW | KESTREL |
| [illegible] | | |

After I had finished, the first day I came back via the west road of the lake and saw, in addition to those that had been on Bath Lake

BROWN HAWK GOLDFINCH SILVER GULLS MUSK DUCK

I had lunch on the second day in [illegible] at the end of one of the access roads at Tremelwhike East. There were CRESCENT HONEYEATER RUFOUS BRISTLE-BD OLIVE WHISTLER and BROWN-HEADED HONEYEATER. After the day's work I attempted [illegible] through the nature from Tremelwhike East. The beginning of the track was severely eroded with washaways and needed much care in driving down down. I came to the Carlisle R. near land where the sand was deep and I stuck several times.

Sunday, I made it the eight miles taking two hours and a bit of sweating. In part I did not see many birds but whether that was because there were [illegible] or whether I made a mistake on the [illegible] tomorrow two new birds were added to my local list – a flock of WHITE-WINGED CHOUGHS and a flock of LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKE. The seen were a SINGING HONEYEATER and a [illegible] CATBIRD.

17th April Monday I did the second trip to Tea Tree Bay. It was not a good day for birds. In the bush I saw the following:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | MAGPIE | MAGPIE-LARK |
| RAVEN | CRIMSON ROSELLA | NATIVE THRUSH | BLUE WREN |
| YELLOW ROBIN | RED-BROWED FINCH | AUSTR GOSHAWK | [illegible] |
| GOLDFINCH | FLAME ROBIN | SCARLET ROBIN | RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD |
| GREY FANTAIL | SILVEREYE | SWALLOW | [illegible] |
| WHITE-EARED HON | BLACKBIRD | RED CURRAWONG | RED WATTLE-BIRD |
| NOISY MINER | SPARROW | WHITE-[illegible] | |

It heard a STRIATED FIELD-WREN. Then we found some grass in an allotment in the middle of the town and SILVER GULLS & CRESTED TERNS were seen on the shore. A [illegible] was picked up on the golf links. While BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSSES followed the fishing fleet in or sat in large numbers on the water further out.

20th April 1945. I did the second trip through Lowers Hill, Lake Vale and Glen Aine. It was a wet day to begin with but heavy rain was not met with until we were going from Lowers Hill to Lower Gellibrand. We had had to come back that way for the Lower Gellibrand Road was impassable. Coming from Lower Gellibrand through to Apollo Bay we only had light showers, the country being very beautiful. I had Joan and Michael and Fay Bixon with me. We had fish and chips at Apollo Bay and came home by the Skenes Creek Road in the dark, with fog and rain round Mt Sabine.

Coming the lake-bank, where we picked up Fay the birds seen on the day were

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PELICAN | RAVEN | SILVEREYE | MAGPIE |
| SILVER GULLS | | CRIMSON ROSELLA | RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD |
| BLACK DUCK | | RED-BROWED FINCH | WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER |
| LITTLE GREBE | | GREY BUTCHER-BIRD | GOLDFINCH |
| MUSK DUCK | | SWALLOW | CRESTED TERN |
| SPUR-WINGED PLOVER | | NATIVE THRUSH | MAGPIE LARK |
| [illegible] | | YELLOW ROBIN | RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL |
| BLUE WREN | | SCARLET ROBIN | SWAMP-HARRIER |
| BLACKBIRD | | HERON | FLAME ROBIN |
| [illegible] | | STARLING | EASTERN SWAMPHEN |

25th April 1948 Joan and I went with Michael to Nel Mooney

21 out into the bush at Jerdene just past Stalker [illegible]

It was a really afternoon and I had time to stand and observe — which led to a most humiliating identification [illegible] on the way and in the bush

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | WHITE-FRONTED CHATS | RAVENS. |
| MAGPIE | STARLING | MAGPIE-LARK |
| SWALLOWS | WILLIE-WAGTAIL | PIPIT |
| SCARLET ROBIN | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL | EASTERN SHAMPHEN |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| WHITE-EARED HON. | BLUE WREN | NOISY MINER |
| NATIVE THRUSH | EASTERN ROSELLA. | YELLOW ROBIN |
| WHITE-THROATED TR-CR. | CRIMSON ROSELLA | WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER |
| WHITE-BR. SCRUB-WREN | GREY FANTAIL | SPOTTED [illegible] |

And the thornbills. Again seen much "Striated Thornbills" I saw a bird in a hawthorn which was [illegible] Which led me back to the other and more numerous bird, in fact [illegible] which is one of the commonest in the district. It was reidentified as the BROWN THORNBILL. Ever since I was a boy [illegible] thornbill [illegible] the striated chest was called the striated thornbill. I have incidentally [illegible] as such despite the fact that they room in Europe there for the past eight years [illegible]

hung with Gould's Pale of Acanthiza striata! I have vowed to go careful through the whole of the local avifauna for similar misidentifications. However since the 22nd April last, when Joan presented me with North's Nest and Eggs is the first time I have had an adequate account of each Australian nest.

24th April 1948 I summarized on the Swan Marsh to the Middle Creek. It was a dull day except for ea which I had at Meredith Park where I counted 9 Musk Duck and heard their thin whistle across the still water. It is remarkable however that I saw more birds on this day than on the previous Sunday afternoon in the bush. It is an indication of the wealth of water-birds which I separate in the following list

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SPARROW | MAGPIE | SWALLOW. |
| RAVEN | RED WATTLE-BIRD | MAGPIE-LARKS. |
| WILLIE-WAGTAIL | STARLING | GOLDFINCH |
| BROWN HAWK | KESTREL | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL |
| SCARLET ROBIN | PIPIT | SHELDRAKE KOOKABURRA |
| HERON. | COOT | BLACK DUCK |
| SWAN | LITTLE RED CORMORANT | RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL |
| MOUNTAIN DUCK | LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT | EASTERN SWAMPHEN |
| MUSK DUCK | SILVER GULL | HOARY-HEADED GREBE |
| SPUR-WINGED PLOVER. | PELICAN | |

11th May 1945 Today I did the second round from
(144) Warncoort to Nalangil via Streele. It started
off with drizzle, rain but became cleaner the
further out on the plains we came — hoar
frost on the stubble in most places at the
end of Coates lane. It was calm and grey, and
felt a long way away from anywhere. The son of
the schoolmaster at Streele North showed me a
Native Cat he had trapped to do b.m. About
the size of a domestic cat with small almost handlike
paws and a large bushy tail. It had a very
pointed snout. It was almost black with
white spots the size of a shilling — a very
handsome animal.

After we had finished I went down
to Tomahawk Crk but it was raining in the
hills and the road too greasy to go to where
I had seen the spotted Quail-Thrush. So I
had tea at Barongarook West and watched
Grey Currawongs feed on the side of the
tree-trunks like cockatoos. The interesting
find of the day was an Eastern Whitface
feeding with the two-tailed Thornbills on a
fence at Streele. The complete list, a good
deal of the day, follows —

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| MAGPIE | RAVEN | MAGPIE-LARK |
| STARLING | SPARROW | GOLD FINCH |
| SCARLET ROBIN | SWALLOW | [illegible] |
| SPUR-WINGED PLOVER | EASTERN SWAMPHEN | DUSKY MOORHEN |
| HOARY-HEADED GREBE | MOUNTAIN DUCK | SKYLARK |
| ? PIT | WHISTLING EAGLE | GOSHAWK |
| KESTREL | NATIVE THRUSH | CRIMSON ROSELLA |
| BROWN HAWK | [illegible] | WILLIE-WAGTAIL |
| YELLOW ROBIN | WHITE-FACED HERON | WHITE IBIS |
| STRAW-NECKED IBIS | BLUE WREN | STRIATED FIELD WREN |
| YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL | SILVEREYE | EASTERN WHITE-FACE |
| WHITE-FRONTED CHAT | RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL | MUSK DUCK |
| BLACK DUCK | BANDED PLOVER | SILVER GULL |
| BROWN THORNBILL | GREY CURRAWONG | WHITE-BROWED SCR-WREN |
| YELLOW-WINGED [illegible] | EASTERN ROSELLA | |

12 ~~April~~ May 1948 - Today the rama of immunization from Gevangamete to Lwiemlike. Low clouds in the morn which disappeared later to give a gloriously blue sky with cool westerly breeze. Had lunch at the end of the access road with branches off the Carlisle Rd. Walking there in heath country which had sprung up after considerable timber cutting a kangaroo bounded off and I could hear the thumping for quite a time after he had disappeared. The heath was well out.

After we had turned & circled lake Coangamite through Pomborneit North up to west side of the lake through very rich country to Foxhow, Gestry and home. The Scarlet and Flame Robins were seen throughout from the edge of the bush as far north as Foxhow in great numbers. At Cardrew I saw distinctly an ~~Black-capped~~ orange-winged Sittella which I first took to be a Black-capped Sittella. As the cap in the former male is "brown, almost black" I cannot but accept it as such and regard the other so far from its range. At Foxhow counted eleven whistling Eagles on the wing at once very much like vultures.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | GREY CURRAWONG |
| SCARLET ROBIN. | WHITE-PLUMED HONEYEATER. | WHITE-FRONTED CHAT |
| WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE | ORANGE-WINGED SITELLA. | HOARY-HEADED GREBE |
| SWALLOW. | GOLDFINCH | WHISTLING EAGLE. |
| FLAME ROBIN | WILLIE-WAGTAIL. | BLACK DUCK |
| NATIVE THRUSH | SWAN | SILVER GULLS. |
| GREY FANTAIL | EASTERN SWAMPHEN. | DOTTREL ? |
| MAGPIE | MOUNTAIN DUCK | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL |
| YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER | YELLOW ROBIN. | BROWN THORNBILL. |
| WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER | BROWN HAWK | CRIMSON ROSELLA |
| RAVEN | BLACKBIRD. | RED WATTLE BIRD |
| MAGPIE-LARK | NOISY MINER | SPUR-WINGED PLOVER |
| PIPIT | WHITE-FACED HERON | KOOKABURRA |
| SKYLARK | EASTERN ROSELLA | WREN |
| YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATER | CRESCENT HONEYEATER | RED-BROWED FINCH. |

1.6.48 Today I and the Ilford and last summing up trip to the Apollo Bay Lake of the Swans Shire, taking with me Bill Walls, the Tandon Clerk. It was a filthy wet day, except at Apollo Bay where we had some blue sky and sea for our lunch time. In the evening the wet hills showed a beautiful deep blue with wisps of cloud against them.

By Jeodene in the morning we saw a large Kangaroo. At Apollo Bay we saw, far out, a few albatrosses round the fishing boats. At the mouth of the Wild Dog Creek we had a superb close view of a Pimmea Egret of which every feather could be seen in the glasses. Even at the season of course it had no plumes. Except for a large flock of Crimson Rosellas at Yanglah it was a poor day for birds.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SWALLOW. | EASTERN ROSELLA | NOISY MINER | NATIVE THRUSH |
| BROWN HAWK | MAGPIE | YELLOW ROBIN. | WHITE-BROWED ALBATROSS |
| BLUE WREN | MAGPIE-LARK | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL | LITTLE PIED CORMORANT |
| STRIPED FIELD WRE[illegible] | SWAN | BLACKBIRD | PLUMED EGRET |
| BROWN THORNBILL | DUSKY MOORHEN | STARLING | GOLDFINCH |
| GANG-GANG. | EASTERN SWAMPHEN. | FLAME ROBIN. | RAVEN |
| PIPIT | CRIMSON ROSELLA | RED-BROWED FINCH | KOOKABURRA |
| SCARLET ROBIN. | GREY CURRAWONG | SILVER GULL | AUSTRALIAN GOOSEBERRY |

2.6.48 A really beautiful day launch up the Hawkesbury
in the Ways via Lovers Hill, Devondale and
.24 Kangaroo Creek. We came home S had Nell Massey
with [illegible] to Apollo Bay which we
reached just as darkness was falling. The kangaroo
was not too well after being pushed into a ditch
on the Charters Creek road and at lunch-time
the strange jerk injured his ankle. So Nell and S
did Glen alone by ourselves.

Another (or perhaps the same bird) Pacific
Egret was seen at Glen Alpine together with many
waterfowl on the flooded river flats. A bird
which S had seen occasionally and could not
place turned out to be a Ground-Thrush — the
species S had forgotten since my return.
On the whole it was a very [illegible] the birds
surprisingly enough are much of a kind.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MAGPIE | MAGPIE-LARK | GREY THRUSH | BLUE WREN |
| YELLOW ROBIN | GOLDFINCH | SWALLOW | KOOKABURRA |
| RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD | CRIMSON ROSELLA | [illegible] | GREY CURRAWONG |
| BROWN THORNBILL | STARLING | SPARROW | HERON |
| SCARLET ROBIN | GREY FANTAIL | RED-BROWED FINCH | SWAN |
| BLACK DUCK | EASTERN [illegible] | PLUMED EGRET | STRIATED FIELD WREN |
| SEAGULL | GROUND THRUSH | WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN | |
| [illegible] | BLACK COCKATOO | WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER | |

3.6.48 This morning was a very heavy frost and the
(i) day began with bright cold sunshine. I went
past the lake-bank in the morning which was
beautiful - the mist blocking the further shore
and the lake [illegible] broken only
where scattered flocks of GULLS, BLACK DUCK and
MUSK DUCK ruffled the surface. Near inshore
a loose flock of [illegible] kept
bobbing up, the [illegible]. By
the reeds SWANS were feeding while further in
[illegible] the [illegible] a single PELICAN and ~~LITTLE~~ WHITE
EGRET were inspecting the water, each in its
peculiar way. In the reeds HERONS and
[illegible] PLOVERS filed at the wet ground.
Up on the bank a solitary SWALLOW and
KOOKABURRA flew about their business.
[illegible] I was not much on the
[illegible] the 211 [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible] to
[illegible] I [illegible]
have the opportunity. MAGPIE-LARKS made the [illegible]
[illegible] common about the city - the
[illegible] 2 have proved to be very much more
common throughout the [illegible] It is the [illegible]

[illegible] right it makes.

12.6.49 1 6.15 to what I could see and
Eg. 34 came to most immediately
1 63

[illegible]

[illegible] Thursday we made an early start [illegible] at Kanden. It was quite [illegible] road [illegible] [illegible] about [illegible] road. [illegible] road [illegible] road and [illegible] on the top in to the [illegible] and [illegible] Garnets and [illegible] [illegible] Kid Cormorants [illegible] [illegible] some rocks [illegible] [illegible] passage is [illegible] [illegible] and has round [illegible] [illegible] unidentified [illegible] [illegible] there were no [illegible] [illegible] at Thackay. [illegible] [illegible] morning a [illegible] Skuarks [illegible] remarkable by their almost fierce-like [illegible] and curious [illegible] flight. We [illegible] down at Thackay where I spent [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

7th August 1948. Our first trip out into the bush since our return was made with Fay Bryan to Wanc. Wonga, a high spur overlooking the Gellibrand Valley. There is a Forests Commission look-out tower on the top from which we could pick out the various valleys and roads leading from Gellibrand. Birds were very scarce sadly enough - CRESCENT HONEYEATERS in Banksia scrub and many GREY CURRAWONGS in the open paddocks on the ridge. Otherwise all that were seen were

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | WRENS | BROWN THORNBILL |
| CRIMSON ROSELLA | MAGPIE | RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD |
| KOOKABURRA | GREY THRUSH | WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER |
| WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER | SPARROW | STARLING |

It was not till we had come to Kawarren on our return that we saw a YELLOW ROBIN

9th August

The next day we went out and a point a couple of hours at Geo. On the way out on the plateau were LARKS, MAGPIE-LARKS, with SKYLARKS and PIPITS the former in flocks the latter in pairs. Ball's Dam had a very small collection - up to 50 SWANS (no nests seen) SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS (nesting on in paddocks round about), a few EASTERN SWAMPHENS SIVAKKANS and a WHITE-FACED HERON. There was however

one variety - a ROYAL SPOONBILL whose black legs & bill stood out even in varying poor light. In a small dam nearby was a single WHITE-NECKED HERON.

At 7.00 we pulled the car off the road by the cherry-tree which used to mark the entrance to the Hancocks property. When we were last on 5th November 1947, when Michael was three weeks old, I wandered off down the track which led off into "young bush" which was left after the timber had been cut. It makes a typical habitat and a very pleasant one of which the more prominent birds were YELLOW ROBINS, CRIMSON ROSELLAS, WRENS, STRIATED PARDALOTE, NATIVE THRUSH, WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER, BROWN THORNBILL and SCARLET ROBIN. The track crosses a swampy creek full of a coarse grass and reed with thick stands of tea-tree scrub in which were CRESCENT HONEYEATERS & YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATERS. On the fringe, on many stumps that dotted the paddock were KOOKABURRAS — and of course EASTERN ROSELLAS and NOISY MINERS on the native pasture.

I walked back down this creek and had not gone far before a Black Wallaby

jumped out of our way. A little further on a large Kangaroo suddenly stood upright and stared this we'd cars I well [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] before bounding off. As I went on four large Kangaroos moved south [illegible] not hurrying though they said due, but continuing their [illegible] feeding. I cut back to the Track on a Kangaroo-path on which could be seen many of their marks with deep cut marks of their claws as they fed.

We returned through Gerangamete and Barwon Downs where there were EASTERN ROSELLAS, NOISY MINERS, MAGPIES, RAVENS and a large flock of WHITE COCKATOOS feeding on a young oats crop. At Warncoort a WHITE-THROAT was forced to the ground by a fierce attacking MAGPIE

10th August was a lovely cold clear day on which to take pass Queen's Avenue was looking 1,3 best - a lava river with the ripple-marks of rivers upon it. There were very many [illegible] making a nuisance of themselves by hurrying to feeding CRESTED GREBES. Many BLACK DUCK were scattered among the reeds

at the water's edge, HARY-HEADED [illegible] and a few pairs of MOUNTAIN DUCK were a little further out, and a little beyond were large numbers of [illegible] WITTHE PIED CORMORANTS were sunning themselves on the jetty with the gulls. Walking through the reeds were WHITE-FACED HERON, SPUR-WINGED PLOVER and the WHITE EGRET which has been present for several months.

In the flowering quinces on the lake-bank were WATTLE-BIRDS, and a solitary KOKABURRA flew in front of the car down the length of the [illegible].

25th August. We had Mr. Tom Ponder up to Tan, with us and he fortunately brought with him fine weather after several dull weeks. In the afternoon we took him, as we do most visitors to Red Rock point where we showed him the country side. Visibility was excellent and much water gleamed after the rains. On the lake to the east of Red Rock were large numbers of HARY-HEADED [illegible] - about a 00 in all in flocks up to 40.

Lake Cranguenite was [illegible], as we [illegible] and MOUNTAIN DUCK were [illegible] the shore [illegible].

back and turned off onto the Hawks Nest road which is three dimensional in its actuality, [illegible] for passengers. WHITE-FRONTED [illegible] were heard as well as WHITE-BELLIED EAGLES and SWAMP [illegible]. We stopped [illegible] went on Sunday, (25.12.[illegible]) and birds seen were STRIATED FIELD-WREN. BLUE WREN. WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER STRIATED PARDALOTE FAN-TAILED CUCKOO ?BRONZE-CUCKOO YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER MAGPIE MAGPIE-LARK GREY BUTCHER-BIRD NOISY MINER CRIMSON ROSELLA STARLING.

On our way back on one of the swamps in the Rises were SWANS and EAGLES [illegible]

22 [illegible] The following [illegible], we went off into the bush south through Barangaroo landowner [illegible] to a heathland where we paused. There were NATIVE THRUSH YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATER CRESCENT HONEYEATER BLUE WREN WHISTLING EAGLE GANG-GANG KOOKABURRA WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN MAGPIE. SWALLOW

We moved on through Kevondale up to Lawn's hill and stopped just before the summit where the bush was extremely thick

and quite impenetrable. Having through there before I had met my lips at what must have dwelt in that lush green jungle. But it was silent except for the song of the RUFOUS FANTAIL, and so uninviting that we moved on and I felt not a little foolish. We had lunch at Wyelangta and watched a pair of WEDGE-TAILED EAGLES playing, rather we stopped on a little hill on [illegible] (21.3.49) and saw many birds. But about from many BROWN THORNBILLS there was nothing.

By this time we had done a lot of motoring for very little return in the way of birds. I so I hurried up made for the old saw-mill by Weldkrandi [illegible] I visited (7.12.47) before and there we had better luck – YELLOW ROBIN, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER, RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD, WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER, WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPER, EASTERN SPINEBILL, GREY FANTAIL, CRIMSON ROSELLAS, BROWN THORNBILL, GOLDEN WHISTLER, STRATED THORNBILL, SCARLET ROBIN.

Then in the evening we moved off, but not before I had found the remains of a Brens nest which I had [illegible]

[illegible] had to photograph the previous year.

Other birds seen during the day were

EASTERN ROSELLA NOISY MINER. RAVEN!

MAGPIE-LARK. RED-BROWED FANTAIL

Admittedly we did too much driving but nevertheless it was a poor bird day and Pauline [illegible] with us even gloomier [illegible]

5th September 1944 In the Sunday afternoon Joan, Michael & I, with Tony, drove out to the Plane, Kate Noble at Warncoort. It was a grey day with a cold west wind. As we drove along the track across the paddock a Pipit sidled out of the grass and watched us carefully as we drove past, reminding me of the Black-fronted Dotterel that displayed at the wheels of my car at Grubb lane. The plantation behind which their house shelters is a mixture of pine and sugar gum. Flying out from the plantation and perching round the house were a pair of WHITE-WAGTAILS, but no nest could be found. A flock of SPARROWS flew up from the building material that still surrounds the house.

After tea Han and I went for a walk out to the corner of the river paddock on Shane Hunt's Reserve where Charlie always had seen a pair of Native Companions. MAGPE-LARKS have on the paddocks in pairs and one nest seen. MAGPIES were numerous and were also their nests in the sugar gum [illegible] MYNAS were absent and their nests were [illegible]. SKYLARKS were singing out of sight — the sound rings back to the ear and at the same time the treasure of Cain and the English [illegible]

We eventually arrived at a [illegible] corner of the paddock which I imagine should be ideal for the nesting Bittern, but none were seen. A WHITE-FACED HERON and an anxious SPUR-WINGED PLOVER were the only signs of life to be seen.

When we got back I briefly explored the home plantation and found two nests of the YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL about 5 feet apart in two pines. They were 8 to 10 feet from the ground respectively on the [illegible] end of a branch, standing open [illegible]. The "tunnel" zone was well built with an [illegible]

cocks nest on top and young inside the main entrance which was nearly vertical up from below.

In the evening I watched the beginning of roosting activity. Magpies, rooks and a croaking heron settled in the [illegible] Spring, that is from the surrounding country setting up a great twittering in the evening air. A flock of GOLDFINCHES [illegible] the plantation over the top of the trees. A BROWN HAWK was seen at some distance on a dead bough a [illegible] watching for the [illegible] rabbits. Finally, as it was dusk a flight of SILVER GULLS seat their way steadily westward over the creek, heading perhaps for [illegible]

9th September. This morning, Thursday, I had a call out to Hove and so I [illegible] to return by [illegible] and the road that skirts the lake. It was a grey windy morning with storms coming in from the west, blotting out everything with driving rain. The only bird of interest was the [illegible]

was present on rocks by [illegible] a hundred birds - huge flock rapt of them flying out along the shore more southward. Between these rocks were the flitting white breasts of the CRESTED GREBES and the splashes of the MUSK DUCK. Duck were not very much in evidence - a few pairs of MOUNTAIN DUCK and a few mostly flying BLACK DUCK. SWANS were there in considerable numbers feeding on the water-logged paddocks. Their necks S-shaped as their [illegible] were driven down into the grass [illegible] SWANS were [illegible] by the water's edge or on posts.

In a water-logged paddock 200 yards or so away were a WHITE-FACED HERON and one EASTERN SWAMPHEN which rose [illegible] as the car approached.

24th September 1948 Set out on the first round of the western part of the Lilac Shire patch-less school & preschool & Volmer patches for T.B. contact. I was accompanied by Nell Tuaney & Mr & Mrs Stan Taylor. The route was Bavangaroo, Lirremillipe & Irremillipe [illegible]

(32)

Marsh & Pirran Gallock, stopping in the stony rises for lunch. In the afternoon we carried Corowki & Ballinte [illegible].

The open forest of the first part of our tour produced NATIVE THRUSH, EASTERN ROSELLA, MAGPIE, MAGPIE-LARK and [illegible]. In the stony rises were many NOISY MINERS [illegible] in pairs but sometimes gathering in noisy parties. It was a beautiful [illegible] but a search produced [illegible] few birds in the spot where we had lunch. EASTERN ROSELLAS probably nesting, BROWN THORNBILLS, RAVENS, and a single BUTCHER BIRD. STRIATED PARDALOTES were [illegible] as was a STRIATED FIELD-WREN. The WHISTLING EAGLE [illegible] At Swan [illegible] on the edge of the rises were SWALLOWS, a FAIRY MARTIN (first of the season), SILVER GULLS, MOUNTAIN DUCK on pans though no young were seen. Also there were WHITE-FACED HERONS, SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS, PIPITS and a KESTREL.

In the very apparent country north of the main road we first met a WILLIE WAGTAIL then a GREY FANTAIL. [illegible]

Swamp at Corrowke were many SWANS, LITTLE PIED CORMORANTS and a pair of BULLA-BULLAS flying over the dairy swamp counting at BALINTORE were GOLDFINCHES, SKYLARKS and SPARROWS while on the swamp which was contained water were, besides SWANS, many BLACK DUCK and COMMON SANDPIPERS - a visitor it was good to see. As we were driving away a PALLID CUCKOO flew across the road. At the west corner of the lake were EASTERN SWAMPHEN (swamping grass a few yards away) and COOT, again in large flocks as at Lake Bullen.

17th September we repeated the same route as before. This time I was accompanied only by Jayne and the day was given but not too cold. The open forest of the first part of the run produced much the same birds - KOOKABURRA, NOISY MINER, MAGPIE, MAGPIE-LARK, STARLING, MAGPIE, THRUSH, WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN (scuttled in front of the car), BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE, SWALLOW, WHITE-FACED HERON, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL and EASTERN ROSELLAS. At Swan Plain we picked up a few more birds - RAVENS, SWANS, SILVER GULLS, WILLIE WAGTAIL and MOUNTAIN DUCK. We had

lunch walking round the swamp-land by the Hawk's Nest Rd and there there were six WHITE IBIS, WHITE COCKATOOS in pairs feeding on the swamps, SPUR-WINGED PLOVER, KESTREL and SKYLARK. I then went for a walk on Hawk and saw a strong barrier in the rises. There were also GREY BUTCHER-BIRD, STRIATED PARDALOTE, RED WATTLE-BIRD, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER, BLUE WREN, GOLDFINCHES. Also both STRIATED and BROWN THORNBILLS were heard and I got extremely good views of both so that the identity is quite certain. Also there were in the rises, WHISTLING EAGLES and what I think were GOSHAWKS.

Besides SPARROWS which were met in the Coorooke area the rest are birds of the swamps — BLACK DUCK, TEAL (? on Coorooke swamps), COMMON SAND PIPER (? only were away), WHITE-HEADED STILT — two pairs one at Coorooke and one on L. Colac, W-COOT, MUSK DUCK, HARDY-HEADED GREBE, CRESTED GREBE, LITTLE BLACK CORMORANTS, LITTLE PIED CORMORANT, EASTERN SWAMP-HEN and RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL. That was a really excellent day and for the two trips a total of fifty nine species were seen.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 30 | 28-6-47 | Fremantle |
| 31 | 29-6-47-3-7-47 | Australian Bight (reference only) |
| 31 | 3-7-47 | First day in Melbourne. |
| 31 | 4-7-47 | Dandenongs |
| 33 | 5-7-47 | Down to Bay [illegible] |
| 34 | 9-7-47 | [illegible] Trip to Cloe |
| 35 | 20-7-47 | Cloe. — Gardens. |
| 36 | 27-7-47 | Cloe — [illegible] |
| 37 | 11, 13-8-47 | Warrent |
| 37 | 14-8-47 | Yeodene. |
| 38 | 16-8-47 | Cloe - Melbourne |
| 40 | 31-8-47 | Yeodene. |
| 40 | 9-9-47 | The Lake - Bank. |
| 42 | 13-9-47 | The Lake - Bank |
| 43 | 13-9-47 | Irrewillipe Swan Marsh. |
| 44 | 14-9-47 | [illegible] |
| 49 | 28-9-47 | Turkeith Tarrington |
| 52 | 4-10-47 | Anakie |
| 54 | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| 57 | 23-10-47 | Balintore |
| 59 | 25-10-47 | Balintore |
| 60 | 26-10-47 | Yeodene |
| 62 | 15-11-47 | Yeodene |

14h

| Page | Date | |
|---|---|---|
| 64 | 6.11.47 | Grub lane |
| 70 | 6,7.12.47 | Gellibrand |
| 74 | 4.12.47 | Lauriéan, Warrnoort |
| 75 | 27.12.47 | L. Grangamite, Dreite |
| 76 | 28.12.47 | Stony Rises |
| 80 | 10,11.1.48 | Korne |
| 81 | 25.1.48 | Turkeith |
| 83 | 7.3.48 | Barangarook. |
| 84 | 9 10.3.48 | Forest Apollo Bay, Beech Forest Gellibrand Carlisle |
| 87 | 5 6.3.48 | Gellibrand, Ferguson rivers st. Kennedy Crk Derrandak, river Gellibrand rivers at Glenaline; Apollo Bay, river |
| 89 | 20.3.48 | Yeodene |
| 89 | 2.5.48 | Gellibrand, Carlisle Derrandab, rivers at Ferguson, Gellibrand |
| 9 | 22,23.3.48 | Swan Marsh, Pirania Crk, Cororooke Dudit Barwon |
| 93 | [illegible] | Aireys Inlet |
| 96 | 6,7.4.48 | Warrnoort, Grangamite, Dreite, Wool Wool Naangi |
| 97 | 29.4.48 | Ellimatta E. Yeodene, Grangamete Barangarook, Inverleigh |
| 99 | 9.4.48 | Forest Apollo Bay Beech Forest, Gellibrand, Carlisle |
| 100 | 10.4.48 | Ferguson rivers at Kennedy Crk river Gellibr, Glenaline Apollo Bay |
| 101 | 25.4.48 | Yeodene + Barwon Downs |
| [illegible] | 24.4.48 | Swan Marsh, Cororook Dudit, Meredith Park |
| 103 | 11.5.48 | Warrnoort, Dreite, Nalangil, Tannahawk Crk |
| 104 | 12.5.48 | Grangamete, Barangarook, Inverleigh, Forkhow |

| Page | Date | |
|---|---|---|
| 106 | 1·6·44 | Forest, Apollo Bay. Beech Forest, Gellibrand, Carlisle – Colac. |
| 107 | 2·6·44 | Lavers Hill, Kennedys Crk, Lower Gellibrand, Glenaire, Apollo Bay. |
| 108 | 3·6·44 | Lake-bank, Colac. |
| 109 | 8·6·44 | [illegible] |
| 109 | 9·6·44 | [illegible] |
| 111 | 10·6·44 | [illegible] |
| 113 | 11·6·44 | [illegible] Ld. |
| 116 | 12·6·44 | [illegible] Ld. [illegible] |
| 119 | 13·6·44 | [illegible] Ld. |
| 120 | 14·6·44 | [illegible] Ld. |
| 121 | 15·6·44 | [illegible] Ld. |
| 122 | 16·6·44 | [illegible] Ld. |
| 123 | [illegible] | [illegible] Ld. |
| 125 | 19·6·44 | [illegible] Ld |
| 125 | 19·6·44 | [illegible] Ld |
| 126 | 20·6·44 | [illegible] Ld, [illegible] |
| 127 | 21·6·44 | [illegible] |
| 127 | 22·6·44 | [illegible] Ld |
| 127 | 23·6·44 | [illegible] Ld |
| 128 | 24·6·44 | [illegible] – [illegible] |
| 128 | 25·6·44 | [illegible] – Brisbane – Sydney. |
| 129 | 26,27·6·44 | Sydney. |
| 130 | 7·9·44 | Wonga Wonga |

| Page | Date | |
|---|---|---|
| 130 | 8.8.44 | Leo Barwon Downs |
| 132 | 10.8.44 | Lake-bank |
| 133 | 28.8.44 | Red Rock, Stony Rises |
| 134 | 29.8.44 | Lartsie, Skeondale, Lavers Hill, Gellibrand |
| 30 | 5.9.44 | Warrnoort |
| 39 | 9.9.44 | Cororoke – L. Colac west. |
| 139 | 14.9.44 | Baranyarooka – Livermuthye – Purrum Yallock – Balintore |
| 4 | 17.9.44 | Baranyarooka – Swan Marsh Hawks Vest Ra – Barram Yallock, Cororoke Balintore |

*J. Gould & H. C. Richter, del et lith* *The 6th and last of a series of British Birds*

ROOK—Corvus f. frugilegus.

*"Then rooks, the guttural talkers, three times or four repeat*
*A clear cool note, and often up there in the treetop cradles,*
*Charmed by some unfamiliar sweet impulse we cannot guess at,*
*Gossip among the leaves : they leave when rain is over*
*To visit again that baby brood, their darling nests."*

*From Cecil Day Lewis' translation of The Georgics of Virgil.*